THE SAN FRANCISCO

VOL. 12 NO. 3, DECEMBER 1990

# BAY TIMES

THE GAY/LESBIAN NEWSPAPER AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAY AREA

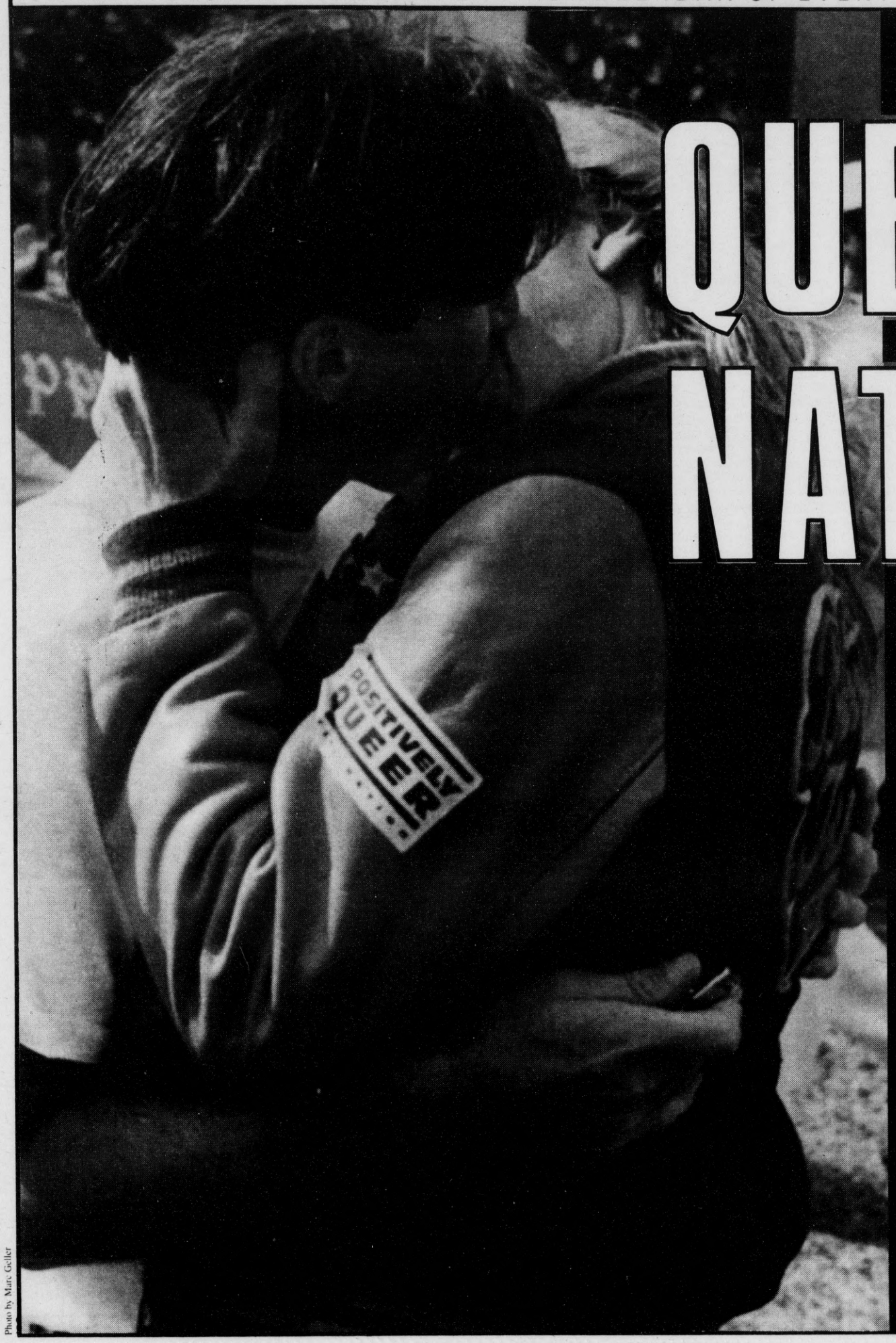
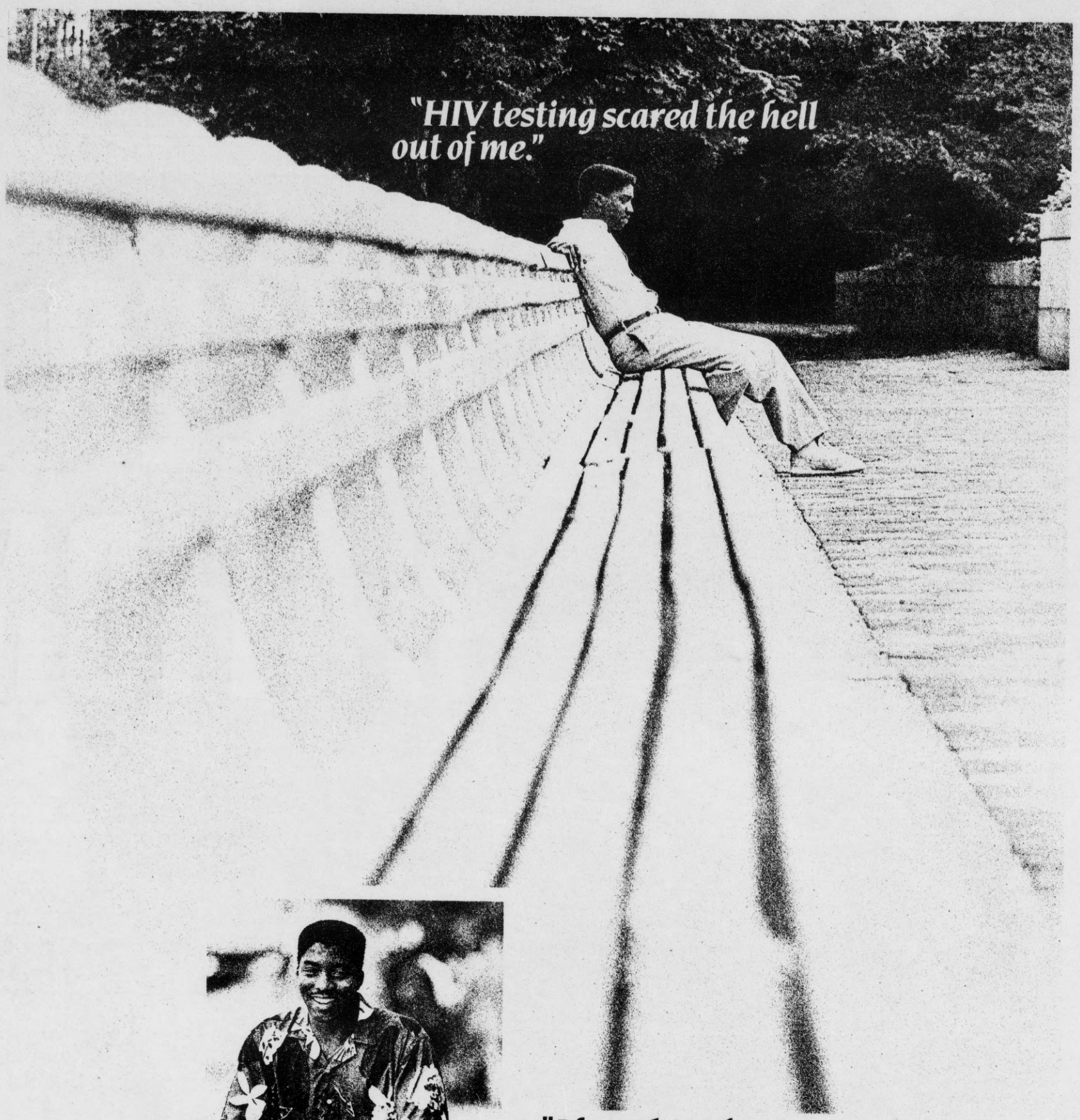



Photo by Marc Geller

# QUEER NATION

## FEAR OF A QUEER PLANET



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# LETTERS

## ACT UP *Wake Up!*

A friend recently sent me Vol. 12, No 1 "ACT UP/The Split" (*SF Bay Times*, October 1990) and I read with great interest the cover story because I am not very "in touch" with what is going on in the U.S. anymore. However, I have a burning interest in ACT UP because I thought it finally offered to take the gay/lesbian community to our next level of maturity. Your article showed me how far we still have to go.

I think ACT UP/SF made a drastic mistake in accepting 200 new recruits without educating them as to what ACT UP is all about. I think that education has always been a weak spot in the gay community and to a lesser degree in the lesbian community. The objectives of ACT UP require education and I am talking about more than just a three-hour seminar on organization. The concepts of consensus in a patriarchal society do not exist, nor do the ideas of non-violent aggression. These things need to be taught if a group based on them is going to function without the situations described in your article.

Another issue is "instant gratification" versus "doing without". When I read that ACT UP/GG was instantly planning on "nifty signs," which cost money; fundraising, which costs money; and an office, which costs money, all I can say is: Brothers/Sisters you are fucking up BIG TIME! Money costs too much to get any good out of it. Do without! You want to change the system, spend your money on things that are not coming from the damn capitalists. Can't you see how much they care about AIDS everytime you go to pay for AZT?

I would also like to suggest that the male members of ACT UP/GG take time to read Starhawk's *Dreaming the Dark* or Michel Foucalt's *History of Sexuality* before they go much further. There are those of us throughout the world who admire greatly the principles of ACT UP and send it money each month. I do not look upon such violent actions as the splitting of ACT UP/SF as a blessing but rather playing into the hands of patriarchal capitalists who once again want to gain control over the new sexual/cultural liberationists, just as they succeeded in doing after the Stonewall riots. Let's not let them have their way this time.

For Love and for Life
Professor Christopher E. Renner
Naples, Italy

## Castro Censors

On Saturday, December 1 at 8 pm, five artists including myself are having an art showing at the 25th Street Workout (25th and Castro). Half of all sales will be donated to Project Open Hand; in addition, private donations will be accepted for Project Open Hand.

This past Nov. 10, I posted the advertisement (printed on photographic paper) around the Castro. Half of these 8 × 10 prints included a photo I recently did called "Silence Equals Death/Work Makes Freedom," with information concerning the December 1 show written underneath. The other half of the 8 × 10 prints posted were simply the photograph with the words "Silence Equals Death" written underneath; no signature and no information concerning the show were included.

When I walked through the Castro the following Sunday morning, I noticed that all the 8 × 10 prints that included just the photograph with "Silence Equals Death" underneath were gone. I was flattered to think that people liked my work enough to bother to take it down for themselves. When I saw my friend Lesta that day, I told her what had happened and she replied that since only the photographs were gone then it was probably the "Castro Censors" that took them down, adding that they probably left the other prints because they were advertising a benefit for Project Open Hand. She said that they probably mistook the photographs for ACT UP propaganda. I didn't know what the "Castro Censors" were until she explained them to me saying that they are people, most likely within the gay community, who go around and take down ACT UP and Queer Nation propaganda. It was frustrating to think that my art was mistaken for propaganda. The photograph is a comparison of the genocide of homosexuals during World War II and the genocide of homosexuals who die by the thousands as Mr. Bush and his people sit by and do the "best that they can." It is true, silence does equal death, but the words "Silence Equals Death" are not owned by ACT UP and neither is the pink triangle.

I have nothing against ACT UP. I like ACT UP. I don't believe that Martin Luther King, Jr. could have done it himself during the Civil Rights Movement. I think that we needed the aggression of Malcolm X in order to turn the pages of history a bit faster. Last summer my mother called me from Los Angeles and asked if I had been involved with the INS demonstrations that she had seen on the news that night. I said, "Yes, I was there." She replied, "Well, don't get involved in any more trouble. By the way, I never knew such a thing as the INS bill ever existed." There you have it. ACT UP did what it set out to do—good or bad publicity, it doesn't matter—my mother learned about the INS bill thanks to the demonstrations that were covered in the news.

Three and a half years ago, when my brother Perry died from AIDS, I realized that there is no guarantee to the length of one's life and that it's best to fulfill one's dreams in the present. That's when I moved to San Francisco and decided to pursue my passion for photography. Around that same time, I learned about the life and times of Harvey Milk and I made up my mind that I wanted to do something good with my art. The reason I chose to post my photograph, without the ad underneath, around the Castro stems from my hatred toward the elitist traditions that the art community has participated in throughout history. I do not make art for the satisfaction of the gallery owner, the curator, and the educated art critic. This is the same reasoning behind the fact that I choose to let money made from my work go to an organization such as Project Open Hand instead of the hands of a gallery owner.

I'm not sure if it was indeed the "Castro Censors" who took down my work. If they did, they were wrong in doing so. I realize that ACT UP and Queer Nation do not speak for or represent the gay community as a whole, and they sometimes tend to forget this in their actions. But I can't help to think that the time and energy spent taking down and censoring propaganda could be directed in many other useful ways. At least the members of ACT UP and Queer Nation can never be accused of being passive-aggressive pawns. James Dean once said, "It's so easy to laugh, it's so easy to hate, it takes strength to be gentle and kind." It is my belief that it is through this strength and the unity of the gay community that we shall get through this living nightmare known as the age of "the big disease with the little name." We are all in this together.

Thank you for listening
S. Brett Kaufman
San Francisco

## Cancel My Membership

Dear Amnesty International USA:

It is with some regret that I am cancelling my membership in Amnesty International USA. For the most part, I believe that the work you are doing is of utmost importance. However, the article by Darrell Yates Rist that appeared in *The Nation* (April 9, 1990) and was reprinted in *The Utne Reader* (November/December 1990) points out a serious flaw in the way Amnesty International operates. The fact that AI will not include the actively homosexual in its definition of "prisoner of conscience" is reprehensible. This flaw was further magnified when a member of AI wrote a letter-to-the-editor, which was published in *The Nation*, that simply proved to me how gutless AI is. As a lesbian, I cannot support an organization that will not support my people. You may not wish to offend the morality of some Latin American, Middle Eastern, and African members, but you have certainly offended me. If Amnesty International will not defend homosexuals, who will? I am extremely disappointed by your cowardly stance, and do not wish to be a part of your organization.

Sincerely,
Melitta Rorty
Walnut Creek

## Henry and June

Dear Randy Turoff

Thanks for your movie review of *Henry and June* (*SF Bay Times*, November 1990). You write very well, and I am in agreement with your perception of the film.

Your review is the only one I've read that speaks about lesbians needing to be seen "as romantic figures in their own right." *Thanks.*

Pat Galton
El Cerrito

## Up In Smoke

I would like to thank all of the bisexuals, lesbians, and gay men who smoke for helping Jesse Helms get re-elected.

Brian Bringardner
San Francisco

## A *Whopper* of a Mistake

Even though a right wing boycott has never worked, Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLEAR TV) has pressured Burger King into renouncing TV shows that don't promote "traditional family values."

"Traditional family values" are not obvious values we all support like decency, honesty, and love of family. The values these right wing groups espouse are based on homophobia, sexism, fear and bigotry. Without fail, bias against gay men and lesbians is prominent in their belief system.

For Burger King to crumble at their threats and go on record endorsing anti-gay activism is a whopper of a mistake.

Sincerely,
Lynn Shepodd
Sante Fe, New Mexico

## Different Forms of Battering

Thank you for the article concerning lesbian and gay domestic violence in your October issue ("When the Battering Won't Stop", *SF Bay Times*, October 1990). Since there is still a tremendous amount of denial and shame in our community surrounding battering, this issue needs all the visibility it can get.

As a domestic violence counselor who works with battered lesbians, I'd like to add two important points. First, emotional and psychological abuse is a form of battering and takes place more often than physical abuse. It can include belittling and name-calling, controlling, harassing, threatening, isolating, harming or threatening to harm pets, and following and other forms of surveillance. More insidious than physical abuse, emotional battering leaves scars long after the cuts and bruises have healed. It's important for women and men who experience this in their relationships to know that they, too, deserve support and healing and that they don't have to be "beaten up" to reach out for help.

Second, although there are remarkably few resources for victims and perpetrators of gay/lesbian domestic violence, there is an East Bay resource that was not mentioned in your article: a support group for battered lesbians in Contra Costa County. We offer an ongoing, nonprofit support group that serves women from both Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Anyone interesed in exploring this option may call (415) 676-2848, Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm. Our group is the only nonprofit resource for battered lesbians in the East Bay. (Wake up, Alameda County!)

Dani
Support Group Facilitator
Battered Women's Alternatives
Concord

## Erotic Exotic Humiliation

On October 27, I attended the Erotic Exotic Halloween Ball at the SF Concourse Exhibition Center. This event was put on by Abolafia & Mann and advertised as a benefit for the SF AIDS Foundation and Project Open Hand. With the names of two prominent AIDS support organizations on the advertisement I expected an event that would be a safe, open evening full of fun for the whole community. What I experienced was a horrific mix of homophobia, sexism, fatphobia, racism and looksism.

For example, the Masters of Ceremonies at this event made many anti-lesbian, anti-gay, and anti-women comments. They threw two women out of the Ms. Exotic Erotic Contest for touching each other on stage and then made nasty comments about them. The contests were not open to everyone.

*(continued on page 18)*

**LETTER INFO:**

Deadline for letters to appear in the January issue is December 20. Please type and double-space letters if at all possible. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. All letters must provide a name, address *and* phone number for verification. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters submitted only with pseudonyms, but will withhold your name on request.

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**BAY TIMES**

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**CALENDAR**

Performers, clubs, individuals or groups who want to list events mail notices so they reach us by the *20th of the month preceding publication*, unless the 20th falls on a Sunday, then deadline is the 21st. We cannot take listings by phone.

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# In Your Face: Queer Nation

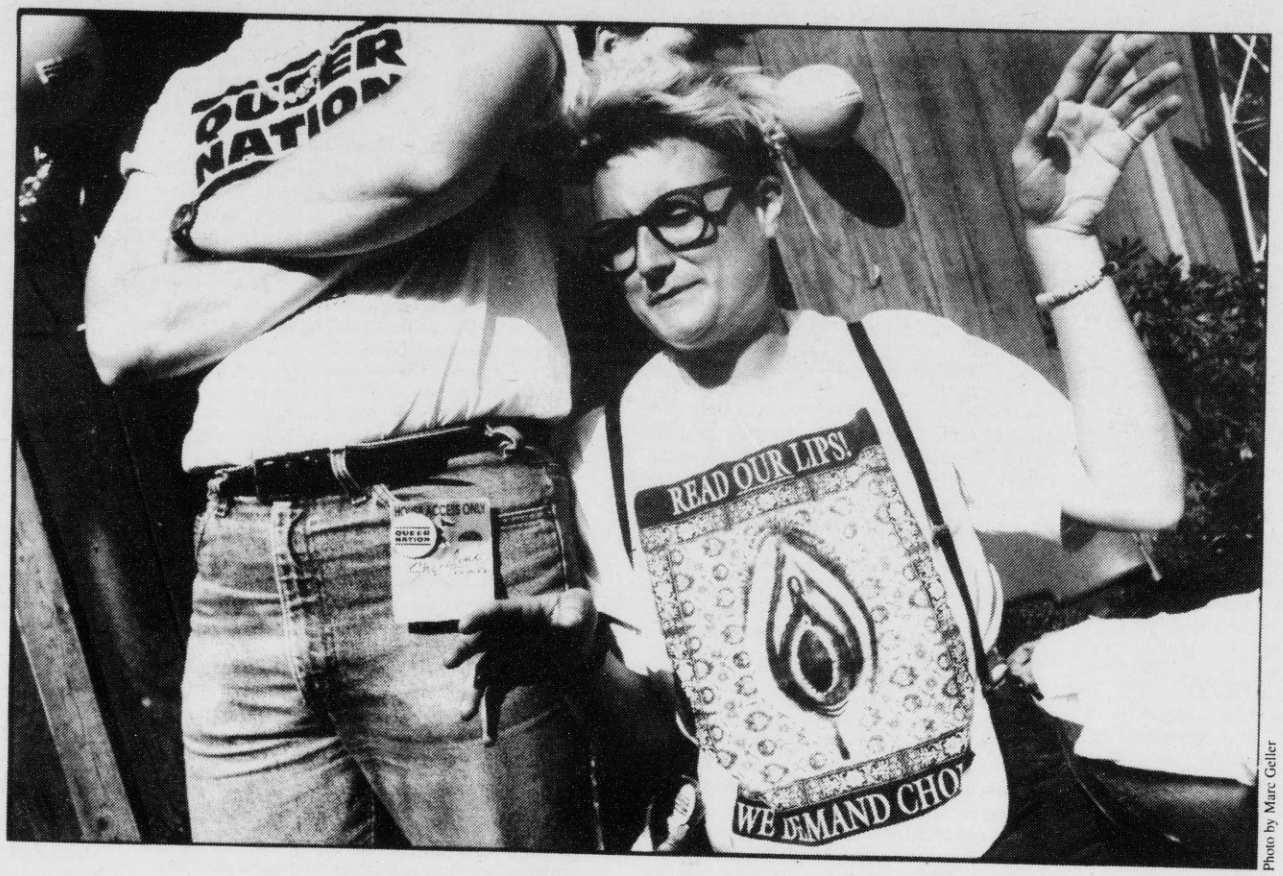


Photo by Marc Geller

BY TIM KINGSTON

The last thing the Caltrans conductor on the noon train headed for San Mateo expected was a bevy of about 50 festively attired Queer Nation activists having a party on his train. They were on their way to pay a visit to the suburbs for SHOP, the Suburban Homosexual Outreach Project, an affiliate of Queer Nation. The conductor watched in amazement as a train car commandeered by Queer Nation was brightly redecorated with pink and purple ribbons, balloons and Queer Nation stickers. His eyes glazed as Jonathan Katz, clad only in a short black slinky backless thing and bow tie, laid out the game plan for the lesson on queer cruising etiquette to be given to unsuspecting Hillsdale Mall shoppers later that day. Greetings heartland America, Queer Nation is here to say "Hi there! We're here! We're Queer! Get used to it!"

Katz, art historian as well as SHOP organizer, says Queer Nation aims to take to the streets to combat anti-queer violence, promote social equality and form coalitions with like-minded groups. "We want to be in their faces!" Katz exclaims. "The point is to be different from traditional gay and lesbian groups. We are saying we share this planet with you and don't give a shit if you like us, but you had better get used to us. We are not like you and we don't want to be."

Queer Nation exploded onto the San Francisco political scene in July. Since that first meeting, about 150-250 activists have shown up every Wednesday night to plot Queer Nation's next move. The crowd is good humored and often verges on downright silly. They are primarily young, from 20 to 28, with a good smattering of mature activists thrown in. Two thirds are male and perhaps ten percent are people of color. The majority of those present are lesbians and gays; there are also a healthy mix of bisexuals and some transgenders and transsexuals. There are even one or two straight people!

"Queer Nation is a clearinghouse," says Marty Mulke. The political agendas in Queer Nation run the gamut of those who simply want visibility—"queers in toothpaste commercials"—to those who see Queer Nation as the agent of radical social change.

There are probably as many different definitions of Queer Nation as there are members. David Garner says Queer Nation is "a group of people that assemble together with the common goal to eradicate the homophobia that exists in our society. That is as simple as I can put it." Frank Herron expands on that: "We are a multicultural, poly-gendered, direct-action group working to eliminate homophobia, heterosexual privilege and queer invisibility."

"To me it is a renewal of gay liberation, a rebirth of a streetwise activism," contends Don Chan Mark, a writer and member of United Colors, Queer Nation's people of color focus group. "Queer Nation to me is a conglomeration of many different types of queer people of all genders, all races and all ages. It is a multifocus group, which means that attention can be paid to all the various concerns in the Queer community."

Such a diversity of opinion only works because there is a high level of trust within the group, and unlike in other organizations, power is stunningly decentralized. While the group operates by consensus, it is not hog-tied by the process. Focus groups can take independent action, so even if a focus group comes up with an idea that is rejected by the organization it can go ahead with it, so long as the action is not advertised as a Queer Nation event. Since focus groups are viewed as the primary agents of Queer Nation, not the main body, power does not appear to be concentrating in any one affiliate. As a result, says Gerard Koskovich of SQUELCH, "There is a real explosion of strategies. People seem excited with a sense that nobody has the right strategy. It is an adventure and an experiment."

The disadvantage of that is the majority of the Queer Nation actions are limited to about 50 people. The advantage, is because there are so many focus groups doing small actions, the groups new slogan could be, "A demo a day keeps the homophobes at bay."

## QUEER NATION, CLEVER ACRONYMS

The outrageously titled focus groups have a million different ways to increase the visibility of the Queer community. Katz expounds, "We like sex. We like street protests, and we like Judy Garland." A very partial list of Queer Nation or Queer Nation affiliated actions includes:

DORIS SQUASH, Defending Our Rights In the Streets: Super Queers United Against Savage Heterosexism, organized a Queer Visibility march from Duboce Park through the Mission to Dolores Park.

GHOST, Grand Homosexual Outrage at Sickening Televangelists, helped organize the demonstration to protest the convergence of Larry Lea's Prayer Warriors on San Francisco this past Halloween.

LABIA, Lesbians and Bisexual Women In Action, have staged two "Girls Night Out" visibility kiss-ins in straight bars to let straight people see lesbians and gays having fun just like them.

QUEER PLANET, the internationalist wing of the group, protested an attack by Canadian Police on Toronto lesbians and gays with a demonstration outside the Canadian consulate.

SHOP visited a Concord shopping mall with a back to school action emphasizing that the fate of young queers is the concern of the lesbian and gay community, as well as the teen's parents.

SQUELCH, Seditious Queers Unconditionally Exposing Loathsome Cop Heterosexists, is keeping a wary eye on the SF Police Department and regularly attends Police Commission meetings.

WELCOME WAGON, Queer Nation's answer to the busloads of tourists that plough through the Castro, has held Queer be-ins at Pier 39 and the Powell St. Cable Car stop to give tourists a special and friendly welcome that they won't forget. A be-in generally involves lots of dressed to excess and *sex-cess* queers, who play spin the bottle, talk to the tourists, mingle with the masses and, well, just "be" where large numbers of queers generally don't go—for reasons of taste or safety.

And what Christmas would be complete without the "Holiday Fairies," Lavendar Santa and Ms. Claus (no, not claws!) at Union Square who are collecting money for the San Mateo Battered Women's Shelter. The "Holiday Fairies" will, of course, be decked out in lavendar Santa suits to compete with the red-suited Salvation Army Santas.

"I think Queer Nation is about having a good time and having a sense of humor. We are not righteous martyrs," says Lisa Cohen, of LABIA. "We are here. We are queer and we are happy about it." Herron says Queer Nation has more latitude for humor than ACT UP because their fight isn't about life and death. "It does not mean that ACT UP won't use humor, and Queer Nation won't use anger, but I think that is in some ways a fundamental difference."

## QUEER ACROSS THE NATION

The first Queer Nation was born this spring in New York after Andy Rooney's racist and homophobic TV diatribe. Rooney was hauled off the air, and then almost immediately rehired. Alan Klein says at that point, "I realized there was no mechanism in the community to do direct action around homophobia." He got together with some friends in ACT UP and began calling everyone else he knew who might be interested. That spawned the first meeting of 75 activists on March 20.

What truly sent Queer Nation hurtling into the political stratosphere was the late April bombing of a Greenwich Village gay bar and a subsequent protest march where Queer Nation was semi-officially christened. Klein says, "I used Queer Nation on the bullhorn that night, and it kind of took root with the crowd.... It was a direct progression from AIDS activism to direct action for lesbians and gays."

Queer Nation offshoots have sprung up all over the country, frequently where ACT UP groups have laid the groundwork for grassroots queer activism. Queer Nations operate in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Providence, San Francisco, Toronto and several other cities

Mark Duran, one of the three founding members of San Francisco's Queer Nation, says it was a summer of activism that inspired the formation of San Francisco's Queer Nation. First it was the strike by the women of Mills College, then it was June Pride week, then it was ACT UP demonstrations every day at the AIDS conference, then it was the Lesbian/Gay Film Festival, but what finally did it was a Town Meeting hookup on KQED between New York and San Francisco in which members of Queer Nation New York participated. Duran says, "It dawned on me that this was necessary. I would like to be a part of this. After the show was over I was a militant homosexual!"

He got together with boyfriend Daniel Paiz, and Steve Mehal and took out an advertisement announcing the first Queer Nation meeting. They plastered the Castro and other lesbian/gay hangouts with bright orange and yellow "Queer Visibility" stickers announcing the meeting at the Women's Building, expecting perhaps 25 to 50 activists to show up.

When 300 came, Mehal says, "I was practically in tears. I was overwhelmed. Even if you exist in San Francisco with a strong community sense there is something about being queer that leaves you with a sense of isolation... What was so powerful about this movement [was] you don't have to feel so isolated anymore and you have a lot of people around you who are into the same thing."

### CRITICAL MASSES: VIOLENCE, VISIBILITY, COMMUNITY

Three themes stand out when talking to Queer Nation activists about why they joined the group and what they hope to achieve by working with it. Queer Nation members are concerned about what they see as an increase in anti-queer violence; they want to increase the visibility of lesbians, gays and other sexual minorities with the aim of gaining tolerance if not acceptance from the greater society; and they appear to be groping for some greater sense of community that goes beyond narrow pigeon holes of sexual identity or race.

"Right now in the forefront of my mind is the bashings," says Lisa Cohen. "Lots of people are getting bashed; we take that very seriously. We want to stop it. We want to educate people." Cohen says bashings appear to be on an upswing, although she is not sure if that is because lesbians and gays are becoming more conscious of, and are organizing against the attacks, or if the attacks are actually increasing.

Queer Nation is defiantly NOT about quietly blending into the woodwork of assimilation, says Amy Hill of LABIA. "The people that are there are committed to being visibly queer." She says that "if you are not honest about being gay, then you are pretending to be straight, and you are living a lie."

For Duran, not blending in means taking pride in his queerness. He says there used to be a part of him that was reserved in certain situations, "I always wanted to hide when I walked through a crowd of boys. Now it is like accept me as I am, or fuck you!" Duran says Queer Nation is not asking for acceptance, but tolerance. He counterposes that to the assimilationists who he says want acceptance first. "I think it is more important to define ourselves and be tolerated by them. Acceptance may come later, who knows."

When Herron walked over to the bar and gave one friend a big fat kiss at a "Girls Night Out" at the Savoy Tivoli, it was something he felt he had never been able to do there. He says that points up what heterosexual privilege is all about, "and how it has really squelched my queer persona—my own identity. I have subjugated it for years without even being aware of it."

Other activists point out that Queer Nation is one of the few organizations where veteran lesbian/gay rights activists work with the new generation of activists. "As queers we don't often get to learn from our forefathers and sisters," noted Mulke.

Pepper was looking for a cosexual gay and lesbian group that would embrace her work around promoting biwomen, lesbian visibility and women's health issues. Like many of the Queer Nation activists contacted by the *SF Bay Times*, Pepper says, "I wanted to work with a group that acknowledged AIDS but also tackled homophobia, visibility and understood that having fun and acting queer is a big part of being gay or lesbian in the 90s. I did not want to be another lesbian working to put all her energy into working with gay men on AIDS."

Pepper says "We are there to bond with other queers." (Not to mention cruising them too!) Pepper says "the sexiness of Queer Nation and the sense of humor are what make it so much more appealing to young activists." In fact, more than one activist described Queer Nation as a tribe, not a political group.

Helfand, a 45 year old dyke mother of two children, just moved to San Francisco and says she had been exclusively working with women's groups. But, she says she went to a meeting and was hooked. "I had never been to a place where there was so much excitement, good feeling and good clear energy." Instead of being a place of endless political talk, she says Queer Nation is a place where "we could figure out ways to make the world better."

### COME ONE, COME ALL TO A QUEER, QUEER MEETING

Queer Nation meetings are an exercise in controlled chaos. There are two facilitators, and two "vibes watchers" who sniff out discomfort, and watch for silenced dissent, sexism and racism. Vibes watchers are an innovation unique to Queer Nation, and they have the power to stop the meeting if they sense the mood is getting ugly, or someone is upset and not being recognized.

Focus groups take up about half the meeting. The rest consists of educationals, announcements and the Town Hall exchanges. Herron says the Town Hall is a forum for people to come in and say "'I got beat up on the street last night and nobody came to help.' It is a place where they get loving support from 200 other individuals who share that feeling of frustration."

That support is also evident in Queer Nation's attempts to deal with racism and sexism within the group. Only moments after the group decided not to use the word "bitch" because it was deemed sexist, one man said "bitchy" in the midst of an announcement. When called on it, he got flustered and apologized to all the "ladies" in the room, only making matters worse. But instead of jumping all over him, the room dissolved in helpless laughter. The point was made, without anger. Even when Queer Nation tries to be PC it gets a case of the giggles.

### PUTTING ONE'S OWN HOUSE IN ORDER

Queer Nation has its own share of learning to do. Paiz says the community needs to be educated about internalized homophobia, racism and sexism. He says, "We can't really go out and make changes in the bigger picture until we have worked on some of the problems in our own community."

Many people of color are wary of Queer Nation because of an incident in New York when the group protested Dr. Marjory Hill, Mayor David Dinkins' liasion to the lesbian/gay community. Dr. Hill is one of the few Black women in a senior government position, and many people of color did not take kindly to New York Queer Nation's suggestion she donate half her salary to the community. "For Queer Nation to single her out is real suspicious to me" says Carmen Vazquez, San Francisco's coordinator of lesbian/gay health services. She suspects racism may have played into the affair. She says, "Queer Nation is very white, and that concerns me." She intends to lead a facilitation and racism workshop with the group in December.

While nothing like that has happened in San Francisco, Henry Holmes, a member of United Colors, notes that the meetings tend to be dominated by white men. He says Queer Nation uses words like homophobia, racism and sexism, but cautions, "We all know these are bad things, but when it comes down to dealing with these issues... people get defensive and won't communicate."

In its favor, Karl Knapper, a leading United Colors member, says that Queer Nation is better than other groups he has been involved with, because when people are called on their racism

*(continued on page 38)*

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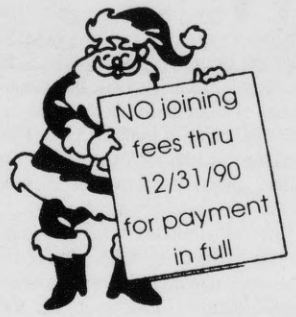


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# Project Pentamidine:

## A Lifeline For Those Who Fall Through The Cracks

BY TIM KINGSTON

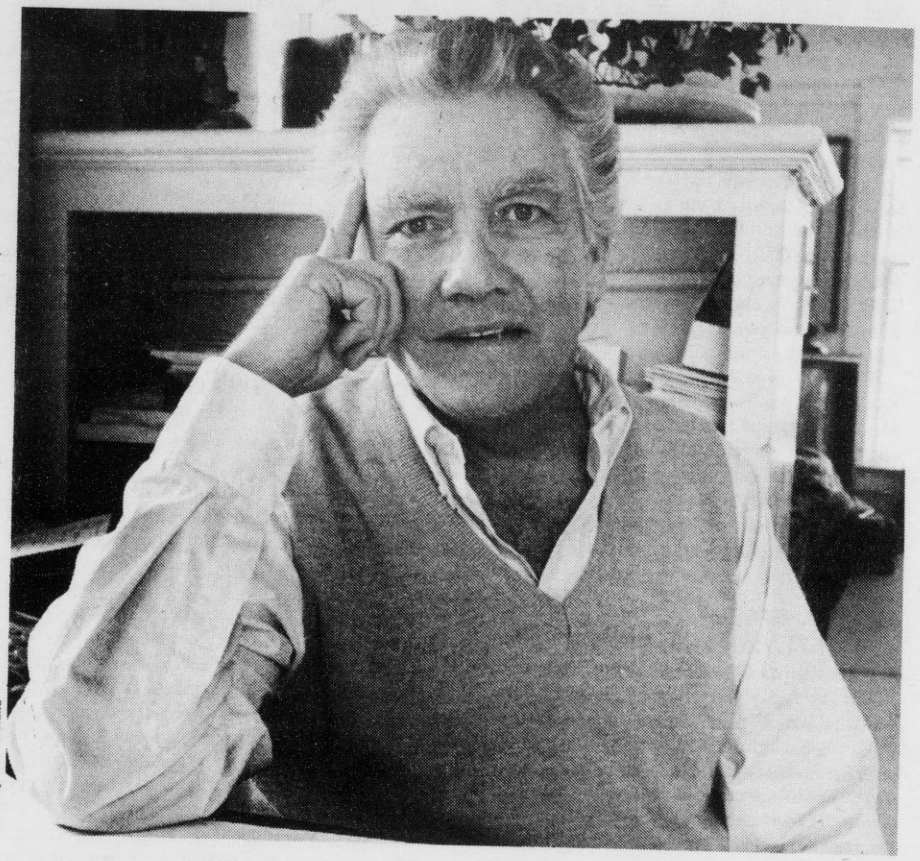

Photo by Jane Cleland

When Jack Erdmann found that he could obtain pentamidine—a drug used for prophylaxis and treatment of pneumocystis carnii pneumonia (PCP)—at about half the price it costs in the U.S. by legally importing it from Mexico, he was overjoyed. "I found out that there is a lot of anger surrounding the high price of pentamidine. There were doctors and institutions that were upset over the price... and felt it should be lowered. I said here is my chance to get involved."

Erdmann founded Project Pentamidine last year to import the drug. Since then he has helped import approximately 300 vials of the substance into the country. At $59 each, the 300 ml vials are substantially cheaper than the $99.45 to $128.50 charged by the U.S. manufacturer, Lyphomed Fujisawa. The original price of pentamidine was $24.95 in 1984 when Lyphomed obtained exclusive rights to market the drug for seven years under the Orphan Drug Act.

"This is price gouging," declares Erdmann. "We are not trying to stop anyone from making a profit. We are trying to say, look, bring this down to a reasonable price."

Not surprisingly, Brian Tambi, president of Lyphomed Fujisawa, rejects Erdmann's characterization of pentamidine as "exhorbitantly" costly. "Any reasonable person who knows pharmaceutical pricing would conclude this drug is relatively inexpensive for the job this drug does—and does so well." Tambi says says its $1,200 per annum price for prophylaxis is particularly inexpensive, when compared to "similar disease states" and the thousands of dollars of hospital expenses that would be incurred if prophylaxis were not available.

Erdmann's goals for Project Pentamidine are twofold. First, and most important, he wants to put political pressure on Lyphomed in the hope that they will lower the price of pentamidine in the same way that Burroughs Wellcome was embarrassed by AIDS activists into cutting the price of AZT. Second, he wants to get the drug to those who are ineligible for the Federal AIDS drug program or private insurance, and thus cannot afford the drug. Erdmann estimates about 75 people a month use Project Pentamidine and says that he has been getting calls from around the country expressing interest in and support for the project.

Don Beers, Lyphomed's attorney in Washington, D.C., asserts that the import of any pentamidine not made by Lyphomed is illegal, because it has not been licensed by the Food And Drug Administration (FDA). Four conditions must be met for unapproved drugs to be imported under FDA personal use guidelines. The imported drug has to be for one individual's personal use; no more than a three-month supply may be shipped at any one time; commercial distribution and promotion is prohibited; and a doctor's prescription must accompany any drug deliveries.

If those conditions are met, says Daniel Michels, director of the FDA's office of compliance—the enforcement arm of the agency—the agency will not take regulatory action "despite the fact that the law has been violated." (The Mexican pentamidine Erdmann imports comes from May and Baker, a British firm. Their drug is chemically identical to Lyphomed's, but is not licensed by the FDA, therefore it is not legally approved.) While admitting that he is not exactly familiar with what Erdmann is doing, Beers says, "We have heard he is bringing in substantial quantities of the drugs, [and] if that were the case it would not be personal use."

Tambi added categorically, "If Mr. Erdmann is importing pentamidine from abroad for commercial use and distribution, I have been advised that he is breaking the law."

"All I am saying," continued Tambi, "is if anyone is breaking the law, the law enforcement agencies must enforce the law. If he is not breaking the law, then he has the right to operate. The fact the law enforcement agencies are not enforcing the law does not mean that the person is not breaking the law."

Erdmann categorically denies that he is acting as a commercial distributor and states he has been contacted by FDA officials who have told him that Project Pentamidine can remain in operation "as long as you do what you are doing and don't break any laws." Michels declined to comment on whether the FDA is investigating Project Pentamidine, as did the local office of the FDA. But Michels seemed more concerned about the more sophisticated buyer's clubs that he says operate as if they are actual pharmacies, than about one person organizing the import of batches of unapproved pentamidine for personal use.

Although the last thing Erdmann wants is for the FDA or Lyphomed to shut him down, even that could end up working in his favor. "Come on, I would get a lot of press and that would bring the focus again on the overpricing of effective drugs!"

### PROJECT PENTAMIDINE IN ACTION

Erdmann stresses his role in founding Project Pentamidine is simply to serve as a coordinator and liaison with Bocuma, the Mexican distributor of pentamidine. "I am keeping it incredibly loose, and am acting as a monitoring service. The more structure I have, I think, the more danger I have of breaking FDA guidelines." He is relying on word of mouth, leaflets and press coverage to make his case. Erdmann puts no markup on the drug and says, "I am not going to put an advertisement in the *SF Bay Times*. I can't promote it commercially."

To obtain pentamidine from the Project, an individual must first contact Erdmann with a prescription from their doctor, proof of ability to pay or need for the drug, and a return address. Erdmann then sends that information to Bocuma along with a check, money order or guarantee of payment for a three-month supply of pentamidine. The shipment is returned directly to the patient. At no time does the imported pentamidine come into Erdmann's possession, nor are any checks or money orders made out to Erdmann or Project Pentamidine.

Jazier Mungia, the Bocuma representative who first told Erdmann about the May and Baker product's availability in Mexico, says, "Almost all the buyers groups have been trying to find alternative sources, but there is only one other big source, and that is May and Baker." (May and Baker is a subsidiary of the French pharmaceutical giant Rhone-Poulenc Rorer.) Bocuma's pentamidine enters Mexico through a circuitous route originating in England. Mungia says Bocuma can

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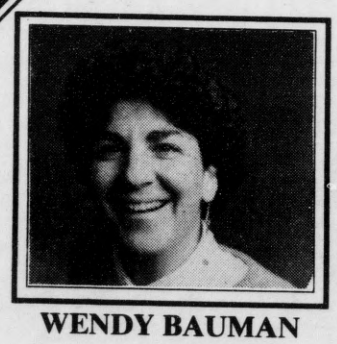

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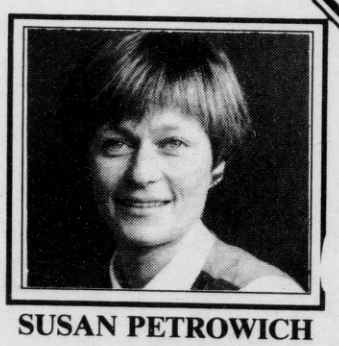

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get pentamidine shipped into the U.S. in about two weeks.

Mungia declined to say what Bocuma's profit on the deal is, but several sources say pentamidine purchased in the U.K. costs only $30 per 300 ml. (Derek Hodel of the PWA Buyers Club in New York says that his group bundles requests for pentamidine, then sends a member over to Britain to purchase and bring the drug back to the U.S.) Erdmann pays Bocuma $59 for 300 ml but does not have to travel to Britain to get the drug. It is not known what percent of the $59 is profit for Bocuma. No matter, even including shipping costs and Bocuma profits, the price is still almost half that of the Lyphomed product.

### THE BENEFICIARIES

The people most likely to benefit directly from Project Pentamidine are those ineligible for, or unaware of, the Federal AIDS Drug program that provides AZT and aerosol pentamidine in California free of charge to those with AIDS who earn less than $40,000 a year.

While the Federal program covers most AIDS patients who need aerosol pentamidine prophylaxis, Robert Hopcke, coordinator of the AIDS prevention program at Operation Concern, points out that PWARC's are frequently ineligible. "[They] often fall between the criteria—their T-cell counts are too high or to low. They don't have a recognized opportunistic infection, even though they may be very ill. They have too much money because they are still working. There are many ways that people with ARC fall through the cracks." Ironically for some PWARC's, getting an AIDS diagnosis is the best thing that can happen to them. A diagnosis qualifies them for benefits that are otherwise denied, including the Federal AIDS Drug program.

Dr. Julio Barba, director of respiratory therapy at Mt. Zion-UCSF, says that for many patients, getting pentamidine through the Project could potentially be more expensive than obtaining it through the Federal Program. Even so, he says Project Pentamidine is "possibly a useful alternative for people in specific circumstances." Similar opinions were expressed by Brian Dobrow, executive coordinator of Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights and Jesse Dobson, of ACT UP/GG, who said Project Pentamidine was next on his list to call when he experienced difficulties with his insurer in obtaining aerosol pentamidine.

Erdmann argues that just because the Federal Government pays for pentamidine, that is no reason to stop agitating for a reduction in the drug's price. Every extra dollar spent on pentamidine further drains limited Federal resources. "If you are taking money that is funded for something over here, and you are [instead] spending it on overpriced drugs, then you don't have the money for other services," he says.

### PRICE WARS

Patient advocates and Lyphomed have battled it out over pentamidine's expense ever since early 1988, when activists discovered that Lyphomed, then an independent company, had quadrupled the drug's price after receiving seven years exclusive marketing rights under the Orphan Drug Act in 1984. (See "The Price of Life Quadruples for People with AIDS," *SF Bay Times/Coming Up!*, March 1988.)

Asked if Pentamidine is overpriced, Jeff Levi, of the AIDS Action Council quickly replied, "Yes, that is an easy one, It is several times what it costs in a freely competitive market." Steve Morin, special assistant on health policy to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, says it is impossible to know definitively if the price is excessive, because Lyphomed refuses to submit data on the profitability and manufacturing costs of the drug to Congress. Morin says Lyphomed has been warned "that they will have to be more responsive to Congress or they will get subpoenaed."

Levi and AIDS activists have repeatedly met with Lyphomed to demand the company reduce the price, to no avail. "I hate to set up Burroughs Wellcome [manufacturer of AZT] as a broad-minded group, [but] we have met several times with Brian Tambi and we have essentially been stonewalled," says Levi. "When we had our meetings with Burroughs Wellcome, while there was not a cause and effect link, we did ultimately see a price reduction."

Lyphomed's exclusive marketing rights on pentamidine run out in October 1991. It is possible the company wants to hold the price firm until then. As Tambi notes, "it will drop like a rock" as soon as the orphan-drug status lapses, and other generic drug companies start to manufacture pentamidine. He says, "We expect that... it will go down to around $40 or $50 [a dose]."

Tambi, however, calls Levi's charges of stonewalling "totally unfair and without merit." He defends the quadrupling of pentamidine's price as necessary for Lyphomed to recoup the $20 to $30 million they say they poured into clinical trails and research to get pentamidine approved by the FDA in both IV and aerosol form for prophylaxis. Tambi says the price has been stable for three years now. He argues that Lyphomed would be quite happy to sell pentamidine for $25, like May and Baker—had the company not sunk money into research, and the training and maintenance of a sales force to both sell the drug and train doctors across the country in its use. He asserted that a single salesperson alone costs the company $100,000 a year. Tambi also noted with evident irritation that May and Baker originally provided pentamidine to the Centers for Disease Control for the first few dozen cases of AIDS related PCP in the early 1980s, but then dropped out when the amounts of the drug needed became larger and it looked like FDA trials would be required. That was when Lyphomed stepped in.

Finally, Tambi pleads poverty. He says the company has given away over $1 million of the drug for compassionate-use programs and provided free aerosol nebulizers for patients. Tambi argues Burroughs Wellcome is a huge company that can afford to drop one of its product's retail price, because the loss can be made up on other products. Whereas, he says, Lyphomed is a small generic drug company operating on razor-thin margins of profitability, each drug, including pentamidine, "has to carry its own weight."

When asked directly if Lyphomed has recouped its costs since getting orphan-drug status, Tambi became evasive. "We have never made that calculation... It is very difficult to allocate day-to-day expenses on this drug or that drug." When asked what percent of the company's sales and profits were due to pentamidine, he declined again, saying such figures are "very difficult to come up with" because research costs need to be factored in.

Lyphomed's reaction drives Erdmann up the wall. He exploded, "How many times do they have to recoup their costs? Do they have to recoup it ten times? One hundred times? A thousand times? Come on, when does it stop and when does the price come down?"

*Jack Erdmann and Project Pentamidine can be contacted at (415) 388-2105, fax (415) 381-2084.*

## Artemis To Close

After 14 years of running the Artemis Cafe, owner Sara Lewinstein has decided to call it a day. "It is time for moving on. I have gone for as long as I can with the Artemis right now. I just need a vacation. A big part of it is my daughter; I want to spend more time with her."

She laughingly described her ownership of the Artemis as, "the longest relationship in my life, and I want to take a break." Lewinstein says she is planning a big blowout New Years Eve for the last day of the cafe, located on 23th and Valencia Street. She calls that "fitting" because that New Years Eve is the day Artemis first opened its doors as a women owned business.

The Artemis Cafe has been a fixture in the San Francisco Women's Community ever since Lewinstein opened it in 1976 as an alternative place, outside than the bar scene, for women to meet and recreate and hang out. Ironically, Artemis has outlived almost all of the other gathering places for women that were in operation when the Cafe opened.

For details on the closing party, call the cafe at 821-0232.


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# Living With Environmental Illness

Photo by Jane Cleland

*Jaya Salzman, Marty Jaye, and Randa Phillips can only get together a few times a year; this year they were able to visit on Thanksgiving.*

BY CHRISTINA SMITH

Demonstrators silently lined the hallway outside the San Francisco Hilton's conference room one day last month while panicked allergists tried to persuade hotel security to remove them. When that failed, the doctors cancelled the rest of the workshop on Multiple Chemical Sensitivity, an illness that leaves people unable to tolerate a vast number of substances found in the environment.

The doctors' quick retreat when confronted with people who suffer from MCS ironically contradicted the very message the workshop was designed to present. The allergists, who deny the very existence of MCS, had spent the morning being urged by colleagues not to reject people complaining of the illness but to support them and work with them—with the goal of convincing patients that what they suffer from is really mental illness.

The demonstration outside the workshop was the latest chapter in a battle being waged between people with MCS, also called environmental illness, and a coalition of chemical manufacturers and conservative medical groups. While people whose strength and access is limited fight for better research and the social services available to people with other disabilities, chemical manufacturers hire lobbyists and form political action committees to prevent legislation that might recognize the debilitating effect chemicals are having on a growing number of people.

## LIVING WITH MCS

"It's not a glamorous illness, but it is an extremely political illness," says Randa Phillips, one of the organizers of the demonstration. "To acknowledge what's happening, to acknowledge environmental illness, is to acknowledge how polluted our world is and how chemicals are really fucking up our health."

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity is sometimes brought on by an intense exposure to something that overwhelms the body's filtering process: solvents, a new carpet, a severe virus. It can also be brought on by long term low level exposure to such things as housecleaning chemicals and air pollution. Because regular practitioners know little or nothing about MCS, people usually go from doctor to doctor before finally getting a diagnosis. In the meantime, exposure to everyday chemicals continues to damage their immune systems, sometimes to a lethal degree.

For Marty Jaye, it began in 1983 when she got a job as an offset printer constantly using chemicals to wash the printing plates. "By the end of the first week I had such severe headaches and I was so nauseated I thought I was going to die. I wanted more than anything for it not to be anything serious, so I kept thinking, I just need more exercise," she says. "I made it through to Saturday and I went swimming. I look at it now and it's laughable—I went to a chlorine pool to go swimming. I felt like I was going to drown I was so sick. By that night I was in the hospital."

Jaye was diagnosed with asceptic meningitis; she asked the doctor if he felt the chemicals she used could have contributed to her illness. "He said *no no no*. If he had said, 'maybe you ought to look into that,' I probably would have oriented my future differently than I did. What I did was go back to work."

After several more years of working downtown and taking the bus everyday, she began developing food allergies, constant headaches and stomach aches. She lost 50 pounds and began going to the doctor regularly; within six months she was on disability. Even staying at home, she had to get her roommates to change personal care products and cleaning products. She had to ask the neighbors not to run the car in the garage downstairs. People who smoked were asked not to come into the house at all.

"My life just pretty dramatically and quickly took a nose dive, and I stopped going virtually anywhere but work and shopping," she says. "Everywhere I went I got sick."

Although she now lives by herself near the ocean, where the air is cleaner, and is well enough to support herself doing part time medical transcription at home, she says she still feels ill to some degree almost all of the time.

Overwhelmingly, living with MCS is about loss: of health, job, possessions, physical freedom, friends and family.

"My life is painfully isolated now," says Phillips. "I frankly feel a lot of bitterness because my old political lesbian friends don't bother to call anymore. Chronic illness makes people very uncomfortable. Nobody wants to acknowledge how vulnerable the human body is. I understand; I've done it myself in the past with friends with AIDS. But it's a time when you desperately need support, even in the way of a phone call, and it's not there."

Staying in physical contact requires effort on the part of friends. They need to use unscented soap, shampoo and detergent, not just on the day of the visit, but for weeks before. Detergent and scented shampoo residues can stay in the clothes and hair after many washings with unscented products, Phillips says. People with MCS find that most of their friends simply aren't willing to make the physical and emotional changes necessary.

"The thing about this illness is it doesn't end," Phillips says. "There's nothing 'dramatic' about it. People get tired of it. They get tired of calling, saying how are you, and having you say shitty. But we run out of energy for it too. We'd like to trade our bodies in; we don't have any choice."

Ellen Garfinkle, Ph.D., a therapist who sees many women with MCS, says isolation is one of the main problems her clients deal with. "One of common themes is how misunderstood people feel. Somebody—your doctor or employer—says it's all in your mind, that's hard to take after a while. After a number of these experiences you quit trying to talk to those people. Your social circle gets more limited to people with environmental illness."

But getting support from other people with MCS has its limitations, Phillips says. "We're unpredictable because we don't know how we're going to feel, so support groups get canceled a lot. There's a lot of phone contact, but hugging a telephone receiver doesn't quite make it."

Phillips says most people don't understand the importance of someone with MCS avoiding exposure to chemicals. In her neighborhood, she has had to deal with one neighbor who uses scented lotion while out on her deck, another who wears heavy perfume, and another who planned to fumigate for termites. "It's created some extreme friction, because they think I'm being a selfish bitch," she says. "They don't realize if I get a dose of something that's acutely toxic I could end up totally housebound, and they just think I'm being hysterical. And I'm not as a bad off as a lot of people I know."

Once diagnosed with MCS, people usually have to get rid of a great deal of what they own. For Jaya Salzman, "It was almost like an intense spiritual change. Everything had to be replaced."

Although Salzman's apartment looks fairly nor-

## Support Resources

**Environmental Health Network meetings.**
Based in San Francisco, this group meets at 7:30 on the first Thursday of each month at St. Mary's Hospital in San Francisco. Two meetings a year are for discussions; the rest feature presentations on health, general welfare, housing and legal issues related to MCS. Networking is common before and after all meetings. Call Susan del Solar at 530-1724 for more information or write 2536 Leimert Blvd., Oakland, CA 94602.

**Environmental Health Network Referrals.**
This telephone referral system offers information on physicians and other health care providers, counseling services, legal services, and social security services as well as information about safe products and services that use safe products. Call Susan del Solar at 530-1724.

**National Center for Environmental Health Strategies**
This is a clearinghouse and referral service offering support and advocacy services. Call Mary Lamielle at 609-429-5358 or write 1100 Rural Avenue, Voorhees, NJ 08043.
National Foundation for the Chemically Hypersensitive. This is a clearinghouse for information about MCS. Call regional president Milan Parem at 415-485-0584 or national president Fred Nelson at 919-270-9441.

**Marin Housing for Independent Living.**
MHIL, a housing advocacy organization, is currently developing an 11-unit building for people with MCS in Marin. For information call Tom Wilson at 526-8505.

mal, almost everything has been chosen for its design. Furniture is all wood, because particle board and plywood give off formaldehyde. The bookshelves are glassed to keep in chemicals from the ink. The curtains are cotton, the mattress contains no foam or fire retardant, the sheets and pillowcases are untreated. Her kitchen has no stove; because gas fumes are extremely debilitating, Salzman cooks on hot plates. A special washing machine is hooked up to the kitchen sink so she can wash clothes without their picking up residue from detergents left in any shared machine. Laundromats are completely inaccessible to people with MCS because of the scents used in soap and fabric softeners. She uses a special glass-covered box that holds books while she reads them, but even the residue of chemicals on her gloves makes her sick.

"Food has become hell," Salzman says. "There are fifteen foods I can eat, and I have to write down what I eat every day. When I feel lousy I can't order pizza, I can't just eat leftovers. When I have a reaction to something I spend hours or days figuring out what's caused it."

Anytime anything new is brought into the house it has to be treated carefully, she says. "I have to air out Borax for months because the box absorbs so much scent from other things around it, for example. Almost everything has some kind of finish on it. Who wants to get a new shirt and spend weeks getting it to a place where you can wear it?"

Even after creating a relatively chemical-free space, getting through each day is exhausting, Salzman says. "There's times when I'm too sick to do anything, days when I sleep all day long. The illness is a full time job. There are always about ten crises—fighting with the landlord about the tenant who smokes next door, dealing with an agency when the street is going to be paved..."

Many people with MCS become progressively housebound. Partly that's a result of total intolerance to substances on the street, in the air, on people, and in buildings; but even in people who can tolerate some exposure, there's a tendency to become isolated, says Dr. Garfinkle.

"When you think about being allergic to so many things in the world and in contact with so much that makes you sick, the natural tendency is to not want to be in contact with those things. In modern life that means you're really restricted. People get worn down by that."

Barbara Ruth, a writer who has had MCS since 1983, emphasizes how vulnerable people with MCS are even when they've anticipated what they'll be exposed to on a trip outside. "The logistics are so complicated. If one thing goes wrong it skews everything. My brother and sister-in-law got scent free so they could visit. We had a nice time, but as we were driving home on Ashby the car broke down. I got really sick from the fumes and was bedridden for days," she says. "What seems like a minor inconvenience to most people can be a major catastrophe for us."

The attempt by some members of the medical establishment to treat MCS as a mental illness is particularly insidious, say women who have MCS, because it's another version of the age-old attempt to blame emotional problems for a physical illness suffered primarily by women.

"I never heard of this disease until after I got sick. People are sick for years before they know what they have," Salzman says. "Why would anyone choose this illness? I was an attorney, I enjoyed going out to parties, hundreds of things, eating pizza—I enjoyed working. Why would I give that up? This is not a vacation. People who think we're malingering are nuts. It's a very stressful illness. Just because they don't see people getting better doesn't make the illness any less real."

Jaye says that essentially blaming women for pretending to be physically ill adds yet another burden to what people with MCS must live with. "One of the most devastating aspects of having this illness—and I'm not alone in this—is being treated like a hysterical woman," she says. "Here we are in this supposed time of women's radicalization and freedom, and yet we're still seen as crazy, even by other lesbians."

As growing numbers of people seek treatment for MCS, a heated debate is being conducted about whether the illness really exists, with a growing amount of "evidence" being produced by both sides. The one workshop

*(continued on next page)*


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# BENEFIT FOR THE WOMEN'S BUILDING

Photo by Jane Cleland

*"My life is painfully isolated now. I frankly feel a lot of bitterness, because my old political lesbian friends don't bother to call anymore. Chronic illness makes people very uncomfortable.... But it's a time when you desperately need support, even in the way of a phone call, and it's not there."*

—Randa Phillips

focusing on environmental illness at the general meeting of the American College of Allergy and Immunology (ACAI), and the protest by people with MCS outside of it, functioned as a microcosm of that debate.

Much of the research commissioned by "disinterested parties" has resulted in recommendations for qualified support for the practice of environmental medicine (which considers environmental factors much more broadly than traditional medicine) and the treatment of MCS as a legitimate disability.

In a widely cited study done by researchers at MIT and the University of Texas for the New Jersey Department of Health, the authors cautioned that MCS had not been conclusively isolated as an illness but that "chemical sensitivity does exist as a serious health and environmental problem and that public and private sector action is warranted at both the state and federal level."

The National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine recently called for greater acceptance of environmental medicine; the American Medical Association has recognized environmental medicine, also known as clinical ecology, as worthy of continuing-medical-education credit for almost 20 years.

Yet opposition by conservative medical groups and chemical manufacturers has blocked most attempts to legislate protection for people with MCS. A 1981 California bill to add MCS to public education efforts and increase communication between advocacy groups and researchers was passed by both houses and then vetoed by Deukmejian. In 1985 a bill authorizing funds to identify victims of MCS, provide information and support services, and coordinate research was also defeated. Most other state and federal attempts to acknowledge MCS as a category of disability or set standards for indoor air pollution have been defeated.

But that success so far hasn't kept a group of doctors from devoting their practices to an attempt to "debunk" MCS. Last month many of the leading proponents of the idea that MCS is rooted in mental illness met for the ACAI workshop to present new research and rehash previous work.

Abba Terr, M.D., a Stanford allergist who testifies regularly against people with MCS for insurance companies in Worker's Compensation cases, recapped his 1986 study of 50 people with MCS being treated by clinical ecologists. Dr. Terr found the only ones who recovered were those being treated by psychotherapists or threatened with the loss of their job—this, he argued, was evidence that environmental medicine was a fraud and that psychotherapy was the appropriate treatment.

"Their onset of illness is all related to a particular exposure at work. But if you look at the medical records, there's a considerable amount of psychological illness previous to that," he said, adding, "EI is unique because of the way it's gone outside of the medical realm. Congress is being petitioned to legislate this disease into existence. There's probably an element of the creation of a mild form of mass hysteria."

Psychotherapist Carroll Brodsky, M.D., Ph.D., argued that ill people are being duped by doctors practicing environmental medicine who are willing to tell them what's wrong, when in fact medical professionals don't know what's wrong.

"When people don't know the cause of their illness, they look for an explanation for what's wrong with them. People pick up on styles, created in part by the media, in part by physicians. It's not surprising if such an individual finds a doctor who is willing to say, "You have such and such." The patient will say, "Finally!" They feel better because they know what's wrong with them—one person compared it to an orgasm, to find out what's wrong."

While acknowledging that patients "don't do well with psychotherapy when they feel they're physically ill," Dr. Brodsky urged doctors not to reject patients who believe they have MCS, but to develop a sympathetic relationship with them in order to get them to consent to psychotherapy.

In keeping with a theme raised by both Dr. Terr and John Selner, M.D., an allergist and vice president of ACAI, several videotapes were shown of women patients testifying how they renounced the concept of being environmentally ill and recovered after discovering in therapy that they had been sexually abused as children.

## TARGETED FOR PROTEST

The demonstration that began outside the hotel and moved to the conference room involved about 25 people, a high number considering how difficult it is for people with chemical sensitivity to leave the house and risk being sick for days as a result of exposure to intense downtown pollution. Carrying signs that read "Keep your chemicals out of my body," and "Your pollution and lies make us sick," the demonstrators chanted loudly and circled the sidewalk in front of the Hilton's main entrance while eyed carefully by hotel security. Many of the demonstrators used oxygen to help them breathe as they circled the hotel entrance. Others were people with AIDS or CFS, members of ACT UP's People with Immune System Disorders caucus, who drew parallels between their fight for patient rights and the demands now being made by people with MCS.

Taking the bullhorn about a half hour into the demonstration, one of the organizers announced that the demonstrators had been invited to watch one of the videos. As demonstrators entered the hotel and began lining the hall outside the conference room, doctors began murmuring in amazement that they had been targeted for a protest. Several demonstrators who had paid to attend the conference stood quietly in the back of the room, as the doctors conferred and attempted to get hotel security to remove the protestors who silently lined the corridor. Two TV cameramen who entered the conference room were abruptly told to leave, and Dr. Selner announced that the afternoon session had been cancelled.

As doctors began leaving the room, protestors attempted to explain their opposition to the workshop and the attempt to link environmental illness and psychological problems. Dr. Selner addressed the protestors, saying they were misinterpreting his presentation and that he was only connecting MCS and sexual abuse in a small group of people who had no measurable symptoms of immune impairment.

When Tricia Kelly, a representative of the Center for Independent Living in Marin, charged that he was generalizing about the causes of MCS from a very small sample, Dr. Selner told her, "I'm not here to argue my position. I'm not an advocate for a cause, I'm an advocate for sick people. Let's get on with the science and forget about the nonsense."

The "science" on which doctors at the workshop based their opinions was that of standard allergy practice. Under their model, for example, sensitization to one chemical could not trigger sensitivity to others. Patients must show a "repeatable and verifiable" reaction to a substance using standard testing methods in order to be classified as allergic. Because allergists are unable to reproduce such reactions in testing many people with MCS, they argue that people who say they have MCS in fact do not have chemical sensitivity or immune impairment. Treatment for MCS that appears to be effective is really due to the placebo effect, they maintain, and point as proof to the low numbers of people who show real recovery.

"AIDS is obviously an organic illness for which there is evidence of its existence. There are actual scientific studies and treatment for AIDS," says Jeffrey Davidson, M.D., a fellow in immunology at Stanford who attended the workshop. "But there's never been any evidence that EI is an established disease. There are symptoms but no objective findings, so there's nothing to treat them with."

## PLENTY OF EVIDENCE

But Jeff Anderson, M.D., who specializes in environmental medicine, argues that there is plenty of evidence proving the existence of MCS. "Those doctors are behind on their reading," says Anderson, who plans to publish a bibliography of MCS research in February. "These people have blinders on; they're so reductionistic. Double blind studies do exist. But you don't even have to do double blind studies if it's an observable thing over time, with thousands of observations. The very first concept in science is based on observation."

What's really going on, Dr. Anderson and others say, is an attempt by allergists to keep alternative medicine from threatening their business, in coalition with chemical companies attempting to stave off litigation over illnesses caused by chemicals. "Chemical hypersensitization has been known for years and years—but doctors don't want to acknowledge MCS because they know the cost implications," said Milan Parem, regional president of the National Foundation for the Chemically Hypersensitive.

The Chemical Manufacturers Association recently issued a briefing paper to its members which emphasized that environmental medicine is "unrecognized" and said, "Legislative initiatives have so far failed to legitimize environmental illness, but it would not be difficult for legislators to misperceive the goals of environmental medicine as medically legitimate. And lawsuits— of which several are pending—could multiply."

While saying that people with MCS "clearly merit the compassion and understanding of the medical and social communities, emphasis should be placed on proper psychological diagnosis and treatment."

The CMA, with 175 member companies and dues on a sliding scale of between $7,000 to $1 million annually, supports 20 lobbyists in Washington.

## CHEMICAL COMPANIES LOBBY AGAINST MCS

Sandoz Corporation, a CMA member that manufactures drugs for emotional and mental disorders as well as pesticides and herbicides, was listed as having given a grant to sponsor the environmental illness workshop at the ACAI conference. An ACAI spokesman said that pharmaceutical companies routinely sponsor conferences but have no control over what the money is used for.

"Organizations such as Sandoz who are interested in the work of the college make a grant available to support a program. The college then organizes and executes the program," says Dick Bragau, ACAI public relations director. "So in this case Sandoz did not specifically provide a grant for the EI workshop and they had no relationship with the planning of the program." The main part of the grant was used to defray the expenses of the speakers, Bragau said.

(Representatives of Sandoz Corporation did not return repeated phone calls.)

The CMA's lobbying efforts have been successful in blocking research that could hasten the legitimization of MCS; as it is, people who are disabled may get benefits from Social Security or Worker's Compensation on a case-by-case basis, usually requiring a battle that people with MCS have few resources for. When granted, worker's compensation settlements are typically far less than settlements for other types of claims.

Being ill with MCS is almost always an incredi-

Photo by Jane Cleland

*"Why would anyone choose this illness? I was an attorney, I enjoyed going out to parties, hundreds of things. Why would I give that up?... One of the most devastating aspects of having this illness is being treated like a hysterical woman. Here we are in this supposed time of women's radicalization, and yet we're still seen as crazy, even by other lesbians."*

—Jaya Salzman

Photo by Jane Cleland

*Most of the problems women with MCS encounter have to do with invisibility and a lack of information about how debilitating MCS is. "Do we have to die to be taken seriously?"*

—Marty Jaye

ble financial hardship, says Marty Jaye. "It's an illness that makes you poor if you didn't start out that way. But if you start out with no money and no help from parents, which is the situation a lot of lesbians are in, it's hell."

Treatments to boost the immune system can sometimes cost thousands of dollars each month, but even before that it may cost thousands of dollars to remove debilitating chemicals from homes and apartments. Although Medi-Cal covers treatments like oxygen for people with symptoms identical to those of MCS, it has been unwilling to pay for oxygen needed by people with that diagnosis.

A class-action suit by four women won a small victory last month when the California Attorney General directed Medi-Cal to pay for their oxygen for three months while the case is being heard by the California Supreme Court.

"It's a controversial illness and a controversial treatment, so they don't want to pay for it, to which my response is, why on earth would anyone use oxygen if they didn't benefit from it? I'm not making a fashion statement, you know?" says Barbara Ruth, one of the plaintiffs. "It also seems very classic in terms of what's happening to the earth, of having to fight the state for pure air, and that they would question that anyone needs pure air."

Phillips said her worker's compensation claim was rejected on the basis of a policy statement by the California Medical Association that environmental medicine was not a recognized practice. "The insurance carrier for the state of California denied my claim because they did not recognize clinical ecology, my doctor was an immunologist and a clinical ecologist, therefore my case was denied," she says.

The CMA recently clarified that the position is advisory, not binding, Phillips says, and "meanwhile hundreds of people have been denied worker's compensation, social security, and don't have any income because of this political shit."

Ruth found that even when she qualified for social services, agencies couldn't provide what she needed. Although she was approved for Section 8 housing, she says she found "Social workers' idea of what makes a house accessible is not my idea. Their idea is, a house has to be in great shape. If the paint is too old they don't consider it habitable. It's continually having to educate people about what access means for us."

Although she qualified for an attendant under In Home Support Services, Ruth had trouble finding anyone willing to switch to using unscented products. And although she qualified for transportation service, she couldn't ride on the van provided because the driver smoked and the other passengers used scented products.

Even with the services she qualified for, Ruth says the financial burden of the illness makes it almost impossible to get by. "Just like being on welfare, you're forced to lie, forced to cheat, forced to hustle because you can't possibly make it on what they give you. If you have a disability that doesn't fit into their categories, then you're continually having to fight for benefits."

Many buildings that house essential services to people with MCS are inaccessible. Hospitals and doctors' offices are often packed with synthetic materials giving off chemical vapors. The Department of Motor Vehicles is unsafe because of the people who use scented products, but being able to renew driver's licenses is essential for people who are too weak to walk and unable to tolerate bus fumes and other people's products.

## SF MODEL PROGRAM

One of the few agencies anywhere that is actively working on behalf of people with MCS is the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Community Development, where a task force is now working on guidelines that would require the city to consider MCS accessibility when acquiring new property and require the use of safe products, where available, in renovating existing property. The guidelines are being developed to bring San Francisco in line with the Unruh Civil Rights Act of 1973, which guarantees equal access to people with disabilities.

"Most laws enacted to relate to (the Unruh Act) are for people who are sight, hearing, mobility impaired," says Paul Imperiale, Disability Program Coordinator with San Francisco's Office of Community Development. "We would like to specify that chemically safe access be the norm for any tax supported program —including drug treatment centers, post offices, schools, meeting rooms, ambulances, psychiatric hospitals, courts, and public transit vehicles."

The current draft of the proposal, which will be the subject of a public hearing in March, would cost the city little because the changes would be made in the planning stages, and using environmentally safe materials is cost neutral, Imperiale says. His office has also been working closely with the city real estate office to negotiate safe materials from the outset in buildings that may be leased.

The draft proposal puts San Francisco far ahead of other cities in dealing with the issue of MCS, Imperiale says. "In doing this, we wanted not only to bring San Francisco into compliance, but to create a ripple effect. We're doing a lot of technical assistance to help other municipalities get something underway...I'm tempting people to steal this from me, really."

Lesbians who have MCS say that gay business owners and organizers of gay and lesbian events should be first in line to adopt the proposal's standards and do what else they can to make events and buildings accessible. Instead of getting support, they say they've been shut out to a degree that is shocking from a community long used to dealing with AIDS.

Marty Jaye, the typesetter who developed MCS in 1983, says she was forced to give up her insurance and accept inferior coverage while working for two gay men at a phototypesetting shop. She was forced to end her individual plan and join their group plan after she became ill because the group plan had better provisions if one of the men should develop AIDS, while for her, changing insurance plans meant joining the new plan with preexisting conditions and limits on what she could claim.

"They coerced me using abuse and unethical tactics, which included threatening to terminate my employment," Jaye says. "Largely for fear of losing my job and not being able to find work elsewhere, I agreed under pressure to sign. Less than a month later I was laid off with no notice. I was a senior typesetter, and my job went to another employee who'd been on the job for less time." Jaye had already given up her individual coverage when she was laid off and the group plan expired after six months.

## MORE VISIBILITY

Most of the problems women with MCS encounter have to do with invisibility, they say, and a lack of information about how debilitating MCS is. "Do we have to die in order to be taken seriously?" queries Jaye. "There are a lot of organizations and projects that have sprung up to help men with AIDS, and that's great that that is so. My question is, where is that for us?

"I think it's very hard for women to give to each other on the level we have been taught to give to men. Even on that basic level of believing they are important," continues Jaye. "In a very deep way women have been taught to believe men about their pain and suffering and problems. I do think it's very hard for us, having been so victimized and oppressed, to be there for each other on a community level."

Many of the women with MCS moved to the Bay Area to be close to the women's community and then found it inaccessible to them—unnecessarily so, they say.

Making an event accessible to at least some people with MCS can be done by requiring that people use scent-free products and designating a specific area for people with MCS. Barring smoking is another thing that should be done for everyone's health, not just those with MCS, they say. The key is to consult with people who have MCS during the event's early planning stages, the same way physical disabilities are taken into account, said Ruth, who has had to organize her own readings in the few places that are accessible to her.

"I don't have very much energy. And to have to do all the work to make it safe, and get it interpreted—it's very costly and exhausting. It really makes me angry that I can make an event more accessible than able bodied lesbians when I have much less resources."

Beyond that, it would help if more lesbians were willing to adopt a scent-free lifestyle, Phillips says. "Understand that exposure to something like a perfume, or hair chemicals, scented detergents, smoke, is not just an allergy or an annoyance. It can be excruciating, it can be life threatening to some people."

Although treatments for MCS are available and growing, the first and best therapy is avoidance. For people whose illness has been diagnosed quickly, eliminating contact with whatever triggered the onset may be sufficient. More aggressive treatments are available for people whose immune systems have been seriously damaged, but even with the most extreme measures, some people do not recover.

Treatments range from nutrition, acupuncture and holistic therapies to intravenous solutions of immune-boosting gamma globulin. Provocation/neutralization therapy is common, where patients that demonstrate sensitivity to a substance will be injected with a low dose of it to stimulate the body's immune response.

"The first and best therapy is avoidance," says Alan Levin, M.D., who treats many people with MCS. "With diet control, 70 percent of people improve just on that. Some need to go on to hormonal supplementation or immune modulation. Then there are some people who just don't get better."

The alliance between the ACAI and chemical and pharmaceutical companies has been successful in blocking efforts to increase research and treatment options for people with MCS, Dr. Anderson says. "Research is badly needed, but that's not going to happen because guess who controls research money? Pharmaceutical and chemical companies, and they're winning. The only way we're holding our own is the media, and the public getting educated. But things won't change. It takes people calling, writing to Congress. The medical profession is not going to change because a few renegades say they're wrong."

Ultimately, stopping MCS depends on stopping the destruction of the earth, Phillips says. She and many of her friends identify strongly with endangered species, those that have lost their habitat to pollution. Unable to live in the city because of smog, the country because of agriculture and pesticides, the desert because of nuclear testing...

A major public effort to reversing pollution and environmental destruction must happen soon if MCS is to be contained, Dr. Levin says.

"Environmental illness is a problem, but it's not a major overwhelming problem yet. If we recognize it, and we are doing so, we can completely reverse the problem. The incidence of affected people isn't that high. But if we don't turn things around, we're going to have a major problem in the future."

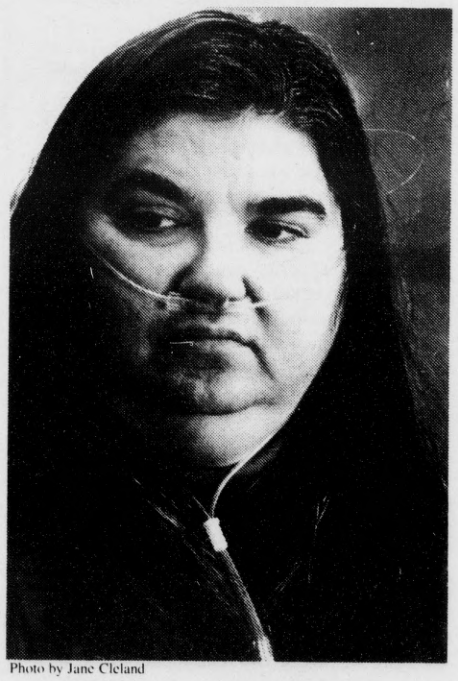

Photo by Jane Cleland

*Even if you qualify for assistance, the financial burden of the illness makes it almost impossible to get by. "Just like being on welfare, you're forced to lie, forced to cheat, forced to hustle, because you can't possibly make it on what they give you. If you have a disability that doesn't fit into their categories, then you're continually having to fight for benefits."*

—Barbara Ruth

# Surviving The Holidays (It's Possible)

BY ALEXANDER J. MACKENZIE

Illustration by Andrea Kassof

I can't believe the holidays are almost here,'' my client Fred (not his real name) said glumly on the day after Halloween. ''I hate this time of year—I always feel depressed and I can't figure out why.'' He stared out the window of my psychotherapy office, and I felt a gnawing sensation in the pit of my stomach.

Continuing, Fred remembered that this time of the year is always a veritable pressure cooker for him in terms of increased demands from work, family and friends, shopping for presents, and waiting in line to mail them at the post office. Fred feels vaguely inadequate, is in many ways driven back into the closet since he wishes to be with his family at this time. If he is in a relationship, he feels he has to leave his lover behind; if he is single, he gets especially hopeless about relationships at this time of year.

He always feels stressed during the holidays, and depressed and disappointed after they are over, and has been around long enough to get depressed in anticipation. I've been through this with Fred a couple of times before.

''What are we going to do about it this time?''

''Do about it?...''

According to Mitch Marquez, Men's Clinical Program Director at Operation Concern, the holidays hold some particular traumas for gay men and lesbians. The compulsory family connection around this time raises all kinds of coming out issues as gay men and lesbians see their siblings in various stages of partnering, and as their families ask them about their plans. Gay people who are out to their families may still experience pressure to spend time with their families of origin, leaving their partners behind, while their heterosexual siblings' obligations to opposite-sex partners and their families are more understood. ''Of course, many gay people are just expected to go back in the closet for the holidays to avoid upsetting other family members,'' he explains.

''This problem is intensified by the AIDS crisis,'' Marquez continues, ''since so many of us are experiencing losses of entire circles of friends at a young age. Developmentally, we are not supposed to experience this until our late sixties or seventies.'' Each holiday season is an anniversary of our first holiday season without those we've lost—a recurrence of an experience for which we were developmentally unprepared. ''Of course, we think we're not supposed to bring anybody down by talking about this either,'' he adds.

The holidays are depressing and disappointing times for many more of us than would say so, according to Bruce Lerro, a counselor specializing in personal organizing who is facilitating a group titled ''Surviving the Holidays.'' Devastating holiday experiences can stem from a number of sources which boil down to what he terms a ''contradiction between unconscious fantasies and reality.'' Pressed on what he means by ''unconscious fantasies,'' Lerro explains, ''Disappointment is simply what we feel when our expectations are not met. People's expectations may be muddled and unclear to begin with—in fact, we may be unaware that we even have any expectations. Our later disappointment can be even more confusing, since we haven't yet articulated our expectations and can't begin to understand the ways in which they have gone unmet.

''Where do these unconscious fantasies come from? According to Lerro, they come from a combination of places including social sources, such as media hype around the holidays and parental messages. The media show us holiday images of happy people celebrating together, laughing and smiling, ecstatically opening fabulous presents, drinking, eating and being merry with their loved ones. In spite of all the eating and drinking, the media images are of svelte, beautiful people, who, by the way, are nearly exclusively white, healthy, upper class, Christian, and heterosexual.

''Even if you can minimize this assault, you are bombarded by merchants who colonize public space with Christmas carols which blare out of loudspeakers, designed to seduce you to buy, buy, buy to fill up that widening hole in your stomach,'' says Lerro. ''The whole operation amounts to a concentrated form of mass emotional blackmail.''

Parental messages, explains Lerro, may include such things as our fathers telling us to ''avoid upsetting Aunt Clara,'' who burst into tears at a holiday gathering last year when confronted about drinking too much. Our mothers may ask us not to get into a fight with our fathers over homosexuality or politics. The message is that we can't tolerate any conflict at this time of year, and especially that we are supposed to be responsible for containing our side of it.

These messages lodge in our unconscious, creating expectations that we will be all of these things: beautiful, comfortable, thin, rich, white, straight, healthy, surrounded by our non-conflicted, loving, laughing family. This unconscious expectation is not a possibility for many of us, and is in stark conflict with our reality of being uncomfortable in these pressured situations, knowing we do not look like media icons, feeling pressured to perform for others' benefit.

Lesbians and gays, especially those who grew up in rural areas, the south, or in oppressive religious communities may find themselves in conflict about performing traditional rituals which mean nothing to them, or which they associate with unpleasant memories or oppression. This creates an internal conflict between feeling like the rituals *should* feel meaningful, and the reality that they don't provide anything positive.

Non-christians may find their social alienation escalated due to the exponential increase in visibility of the dominant culture's values and rituals at this time of year. Many Jews, for example, find themselves surrounded by well-meaning acquaintances and co-workers who jovially wish them a ''Merry Christmas.'' Choosing to explain that they won't be celebrating Christmas takes vast amounts of energy, and exposes them to being criticized as picky or grouchy. Choosing to not discuss this may feel less than honest.

Stacey (not her real name, either), a coupled lesbian parent, found herself increasingly conflicted about what she experienced as the confining nature of the traditional Greek holiday rituals as observed by her family. ''While on the surface, it looks like a lot of fun, it really boils down to the women serving the men. We shop, we cook, we serve, we clean up, while they sit in the living room smoking, drinking, expecting us to do this, just like we always have,'' she says.

''I knew I had some conflict about it, but it wasn't until last year when I saw it through (my partner) Terry's eyes that I realized what it was,'' Stacey explains. She recoils in shock, embarrassed not only about her participation in this, but also the realization that being with her family during the holidays has meant indoctrinating her daughter with these values and this behavior which, when she looks at it consciously she finds laughable. ''I consider myself to be pretty progressive and liberated,'' she muses. ''Yet the assumptions were so deeply rooted in the unconscious that I never challenged it for myself, let alone for anybody else.''

''What makes the holidays especially insidious,'' says Lerro, ''is the fact that if you don't maintain this outward image of being a bountiful giver, a thankful receiver, a close, forgiving friend, you are in danger of being cast in the role of Scrooge or the Grinch who stole Christmas. And if you're lonely at this time, you become vulnerable to feeling completely inadequate in comparison to the media icons we are presented with.

''My family's so weird,'' says Stacey. Her family is actually not so unusual. When she finally brought Terry home, she was very nervous about how they would react. Her family was exuberantly friendly with Terry; they didn't ask any questions about the relationship—they just seemed pleased to have yet another person to whom they could extend their joy about being together. Instead of being able to be joyful along with them, Stacey says she had to keep ''slowing my brain down, trying to stop wondering whether or not they knew who Terry is to me. I wanted to say, 'Remember, I'm a lesbian—do you know Terry and I are lovers? Do you know that your granddaughter will never celebrate the holidays with her father because he died of AIDS at the age of 27?' '' But she wonders how she could ever say that, how she could dump a load like that in the middle of everybody's joyful holiday.

Similarly, for lesbians and gays who are closeted at work, the ante goes up around the holidays when co-workers are talking about their holiday plans and who they include in those. Co-workers are likely to ask more questions around this time.

''Moreover, the holidays are a time when all around them, gay people see heterosexuality and heterosexual relationships validated and celebrated,'' adds Marquez.

Marquez and Lerro agree that people need to be validated for telling the truth about how they are affected by this time of the year, and that therapists should be somewhat directive in bringing their patients' attention to the notion that this is a time of year that has potential to be very difficult. ''Just the act of admitting that the holidays are not a joyful time for you is a radical act,'' says Lerro. It puts you at odds with many of the people around you, some of whom might respond defensively, since such a statement threatens their ability to maintain a level of denial about their own relationships to the holidays.

''To get through the holidays and enjoy them, it is important that we make a conscious, honest assessment of where, and from whom we can get support for the reactions we have to the holidays, and be affirmed for being who we are, and we need to choose to be in those settings, with those people,'' he adds.

The next step, according to Lerro, is to begin to raise our expectations about the holidays to a conscious level. ''In our Surviving The Holidays group, we spend time visualizing what we would like our holidays to be like. We work with these visions to make choices about what aspects seem like they really fit for us, and we develop plans to make those aspects a reality. The ones which don't fit too well, or are not realistic, we work on letting go of,'' he explains.

''Part of the plan for making our now-conscious desires into reality must be communicating them, and negotiating them with the people we have chosen to spend the holidays with. We also address this in our group, practicing negotiating skills, learning how to ask for what we want or need. This is a process which brings people together—our modeling of this open, honest behavior empowers our friends, families, and lovers to do the same thing, the net result being that we gain a richer understanding of each other, and learn a new way of working together. It removes our hopeless pressure to guess about what they were expecting and whether they are getting their expectations met, and does the same for them.

Marquez believes that the ritual aspect of the holidays is very important, and presents an opportunity to personalize according to individual needs. ''People may need to do some internal

*Alex Mackenzie is a psychotherapist in private practice in the Castro neighborhood in San Francisco, and is a lecturer on the subject of power and control dynamics in relationships. His office number is 252-0160.*

# CROSSTALK

BY BO HUSTON

## Vito Russo

If you don't know who Vito Russo was, find out. He died last month at the age of 44. The obituaries list his credits and accomplishments— author of *The Celluloid Closet*, gay and AIDS activist, member of the Gay Activists Aliance, co-founder of GLAAD, lecturer, teacher—and try to describe his presence and influence, but it all, finally, comes up far short. I suppose the obituaries are generally like that; can a few lines and a grainy photo in the paper really tell what someone meant, what his or her life was like?

Vito, having been a writer, had many writer friends, and they have been writing about him in the weeks following his death. Memories, the fondest and funniest memories, paragraph after paragraph, because Vito was a brilliant, outrageous man. Probably no person is universally liked and admired, but Vito Russo came damn close.

Well, I'll throw out a few memories. 1977. I was taking a class at college, The Gay Image in Film, the first course of its kind in this country. (The professor had AIDS and died this past summer.) Vito was just then organizing his presentation and book on the subject and came to my school to lead a few seminars. There is much to say about Vito's contribution to the discourse on gay stereotypes, gay identity, gay oppression; indeed, the real genius to his work was that it extended into an understanding of cinema and media generally, the ways in which people and groups of people are codified into images and the effects produced by this process. When Vito read his list of all the lesbian and gay movie characters who were killed off at the end of the reel—mostly suicides—he was telling a post-Stonewall generation of gay college kids that people who grow up seeing only such presentations of themselves absorb the image, reflect it, act it out, believe it. That is oppression.

If this is a simplistic or obvious analysis today, I can assure you it was brand new and completely illuminating to me back then. Vito was articulating where we come from, and in 1977 I wasn't even sure who "we" were, or if I was a part of it. Vito was an intellectual and a true radical; he had a singular part in the emergence and definition of what we're today calling gay culture.

But, as I say, if you don't know about Vito, you should immediately find out everything you can. What I remember as well from his visit to my school was that he stayed in my dormitory and late at night told a group of us who in Hollywood was gay, who slept with who. Rock Hudson and Jim Nabors? John Travolta? *Agnes Moorhead?* And Vito was one of the world's great die-hard Garland fans, so we listened to Judy (I had a fairly extensive collection in my dorm room), and sang along.

My education as a gay man has been varied, broad, dramatic and great fun. I've read the academic analyses and the great gay literature, been to political meetings, marched and argued. But none of it would be of any interest to me if the queens weren't screaming at least part of the time. I mean, it's necessary and fine to understand the nature of political oppression, but I really think we should all be able to do a Bette Davis impression as well.

1981. Assembling at Christopher Street for the Gay Pride Parade, hanging out in the writers' contingent where photographs of Wilde and Cather and Stein mounted to sticks bounce above our heads, and Vito Russo, trailing lavendar streamers runs through the crowd singing: "Happy Gay Day!" On Gay Pride Day, I've always wondered how many of us truly are *proud* to be gay; am I? We assert it, insist on our rights and visibility, we celebrate. But is being gay a source of pride for me? Well, anyway, for Vito it most certainly was. He adored being gay, revelled in its complexities

of pain and humor, studied it and was not merely resigned that his work concentrated on gay subjects, but satisfied.

1990. Vito came to Out/Write, the lesbian and gay writers' conference held here in San Francisco. I was timid, I always thought he wouldn't remember me. He did, of course, and we talked about mutual friends, his book. We also conspired to sneak cigarettes in the no smoking section. By this time, Vito had been diagnosed with AIDS for about four years. He was quite thin, pale, fragile looking, but was not lacking in energy at all. He talked to everybody, he showed up to everything during the hectic weekend, and swept the room with alert eyes, greeted people with an enormous, ingratiating grin.

This is the other part of my education as a gay man. I'm again looking for role models. I watch certain people I know with AIDS, to see how they relate to it, how they cope, how they manage. I don't want to know what medications they take or whether they go to a gym or not, to therapy or not. I want to know how they *survive*—the tricks and tactics, the jokes they make that allow them to float through this unbelievable trauma. While in 1977 I stared open-mouthed at this fiery little man telling me that Gay is Good, this year I observed him with the same awe, the same need and desire to learn. He was so gracious, expansive, dignified but not even a little bit stuffy. Vito was just divine, that's all there is to it.

Shortly after I learned of Vito's death, I called a mutual friend, an old boyfriend of mine and found out that now he is in the hospital, St. Roosevelt's in New York City. I'm told he very likely will not get out. The men who taught me about being gay, and about books and film, the men I went to dishy little dinner parties with or had sex with or drank and shot dope with or stopped drinking and shooting dope with, most of these men have ended up with HIV disease, and so have I. And then I began to rely on them to teach me how to have AIDS, how to love my life at this absurd, frightening time, just as they'd taught me so much else. Now, they're dropping off. Who will be left to help me through? My grief is framed by the terrible fear that I'll have no one to talk to.

That our current experience with AIDS is considered analagous to a war seems more and more apt to me these days. It's a war on our shores. I mean, I have plenty to be grateful for—I have a wonderful home, a lover I adore, many friends, work I enjoy, moderate success in building a career. But when there's a war going on, no joy is completely joyous, no fantastic event is fully appreciated; everything is colored, washed with sadness, loss, the incomprehensible, permanent absence of so many, and of some one loved person. Until all of this *is* over, we cannot pretend (though we'd all like to) that all of this is over. "Don't you know there's a war on?" Every day we can be certain that the newspaper will be tossed against the front door and we'll read the headlines of some more very bad news.

Vito Russo's passing is, indeed, very bad news.

## Holiday...

*(continued from previous page)*

healing," he says. "In response to the outside pressures inherent in living in this society at this time of the year, we may want to spend some time alone, focused on ways of nurturing ourselves and of being nurtured by our surroundings. It is helpful, whether or not we tap into traditional rituals, to create new rituals to celebrate our whole selves, and our non-traditional, self-defined family relationships.

"These rituals, according to Marquez, can be as simple as setting aside a few minutes to be alone, nurturing ourselves in a few precious moments of peace, or may be more elaborate such as sharing a meal with close friends who are important in our lives.

Fred hopes that his increased awareness about how stressful this time is for him will help him to cope. He plans to reign in his expectations for himself this year, not planning to do as much shopping or socializing as he has in years past. He intends to talk frankly to his family about his misgivings about spending the holidays with them, and is developing a plan to spend some time with a couple of good friends who live in the country during the week vacation he has before the New Year.

"It's easy to forget," says Stacey, "that the holidays are for me, just as much as they are for anybody else." She realizes that it's natural for people to get swept along and do things we don't want to do, to get into situations which, when we think about it, we'll know are uncomfortable. The holidays, and spending time with our families, being put back into childhood roles sends us reeling backward, regressing each year, lapsing in our thoughts and behavior. "I've got to keep reminding myself that I'm an adult," Stacey promises herself. "I've got to remember that as an adult, I can make my own choices about how and with whom I want to spend my time, how I want to conduct myself, and can tell the truth about what this time is like for me."

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# AIDS TREATMENT NEWS

BY JOHN S. JAMES

# ddC/AZT Combination: Promising Early Results

Preliminary results from a dose-finding trial of combination treatment with ddC and AZT suggest that the two drugs together, in small or moderate doses, may work better than standard treatment with AZT alone. These results must be interpreted carefully, however, because the study is still incomplete, and final verification and analysis has not been done; also, it is relatively small, with 48 volunteers. This article reports on the information from this study which has already become publicly known.

The Federally-sponsored trial, ACTG 106, is being conducted in Miami and San Diego. The 48 volunteers all had AIDS or advanced ARC, with T-helper counts under 200 when they entered the study. Six different treatment regimens are being compared; eight volunteers are receiving each treatment. Five of the six treatment arms combine ddC and AZT; the sixth uses a very low dose of AZT alone. Some groups have been on the treatment for over a year, others for less time.

We have not seen the data, which will of course change as the study progresses. The following overview comes from a recent Project Inform fact sheet and other published sources.

Large T-helper increases were found. The Project Inform report cited a median peak increase of 164; the exact figure will change as the study progresses. After reaching this peak, T-helper counts began to decline. We have heard conflicting reports about how far the counts declined, but it is clear that they are above the starting value after one year of the treatment. Both the size of the increase, and the time it was sustained, are much better than with AZT treatment alone—especially for this group of patients, who started with a median T-helper count of under 100. Also, 100 percent of patients in the four treatment arms with the higher AZT doses (600 or 300 mg per day) combined with ddC had increases of at least 50, measured on at least two consecutive tests. These results strongly suggest that the combination treatment has a greater antiviral effect than AZT alone.

What about clinical improvement? Few opportunistic infections have occurred in the study, and all of them occurred within the first few weeks of treatment—none within the remaining time, about 50 weeks for many patients. This clustering of infections early in the study strongly suggests that the regimen was helpful, since with no treatment, the rate of infections would, if anything, have increased. The early infections may have developed before the treatment's benefit had time to begin. Other clinical improvement was also reported, with median weight gain about 9 pounds.

Tests will soon be run to look for changes in plasma viral levels, and to see if drug resistance develops during the combination treatment. The researchers do not yet have this information.

### WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

The results already known from ACTG 106 suggest that the combination treatment with ddC and AZT may be substantially better than any standard therapy (i.e., AZT alone), for many patients at least. We do not have conclusive proof, however, because of the relatively small number of volunteers in this study, and because the combination was not directly compared to a standard dose of AZT. Also, this study does not answer the question of how best to use ddC for patients now failing AZT.

What will happen now? The standard procedure would be to run more studies after finishing this one; with luck, conclusive proof might be available in two years. The problem, of course, is that many people do not have that time to wait. Note that this study applies most directly to those whose HIV infection is relatively advanced.

What should be done is to convene a panel of experts, give them access to all the existing data on ddC and ddI from all completed and ongoing studies, along with the technical support staff necessary so that they can analyze it. They should be asked whether physicians could provide better care for persons with AIDS or HIV if they had these drugs available than if they continue to have only AZT. If the answer is yes, for ddC or ddI or both, then the drug(s) should quickly be approved for prescription use, with appropriate labeling, including an explanation of the available evidence which led to approval, and the panel's recommendations to physicians concerning use of the drugs. After approval, post-marketing studies should answer the remaining questions, such as how to best use the drugs for particular patient populations. (Is it better, for example, for patients who have used AZT but are now failing it to switch to ddC or ddI alone, to one of those drugs in combination with AZT, or to alternating use of the drug and AZT?)

A number of other studies of human use of ddC are either published, in press, or in process. ddC is being tested alone, in comparison with AZT, and in alternation with AZT. In addition, there are similar studies with ddI; however, the ddI-AZT combination study started later than ACTG 106, so little information is now available.

Currently, the open-access programs for ddI and ddC have made these drugs available to many patients who cannot use AZT. But these programs are limited because their strict entry criteria exclude many patients who could benefit, without taking individual circumstances into account. Also, they do not allow combination use with AZT—which now seems to be emerging as the best way to use these drugs. And the paperwork required of physicians effectively makes these drugs unavailable to many patients.

The largest ddC and ddI studies are usually set up to compare each of these drugs with AZT. These trials were designed this way because it would have been unethical to test ddC or ddI in a placebo trial, when the standard of care is now AZT. But how these drugs compare to AZT is usually the wrong question, since usually the new drugs will be used for patients who cannot benefit from AZT, or in combination with that drug. The right question is whether physicians can give better care if they have these drugs available in addition to AZT.

The most important studies are now ongoing on human use of ddC in HIV treatment, but much information already has been published. It is urgent that the existing information be brought together and evaluated now, leading to drug approval if appropriate. It would be tragic to wait a year, two years, or more for approvals for ddC and ddI—approvals which, eventually, are all but inevitable.

## Pneumocystis Steroid Controversy

On November 14, The New York Times published a front-page story alleging that news of a consensus panel's recommendation for using steroids in treating certain cases of pneumocystis had been delayed for five months, in part because researchers feared that announcing the information earlier would jeopardize publication of their results in prestigious medical journals. Much press and television coverage followed; The New York Times published a followup story on November 16, and a brief note on November 18. AIDS Treatment News was credited with bringing this story to public attention; our role, however, was minimal, as everything we reported came from a press release and note to physicians from the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). We had refrained from adding any comment of our own, as we were torn between criticizing the delay and praising NIAID for calling the consensus panel in the first place and disseminating the recommendations without waiting for journal publication. In AIDS and in other diseases as well, there is a great need for a respected body to determine when a health emergency exists, call experts together to recommend appropriate changes in the standard of care, and then get the recommendations promptly to the physicians who need them.

There is legitimate concern that some researchers or officials may be blamed unjustly for delaying news of the steroid decision. The con-

*(continued on page 16)*


SEEING WITH THE HEART

" It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is invisible to the eye."

*Antoine de Saint- Exupery*

VIRGINIA MORGAN

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*(continued from previous page)*
sensus panel met in May, and NIAID released the results in October. However, there were serious medical issues concerning the recommendations, issues which could not be resolved in a day. Meanwhile, much of the steroid information was publicly available, having been reported at medical meetings and in some journal articles; in San Francisco, a survey by the Community Consortium found that 67 percent of their physicians who responded had already used steroids in this situation. We are not close enough to this issue to know what, if anything, should have been done differently to disseminate the information more rapidly.

Yet the issues raised by these events are clearly real ones. There are glaring deficiencies in how new medical information is communicated to physicians. Some problems do stem from news embargos imposed by some medical journals; many researchers do not believe the public assurances that these embargos do not apply to AIDS or other emergencies. Other problems occur after publication; for example, there are thousands of journals, and physicians have little time for reading. European journals, for example, often never come to the attention of the U.S. medical community. The development of professional bodies to cut through the noise and focus on what is most important seems to be hindered by the tendency of such groups to be too conservative (the safest position for guarding against future lawsuits or criticism). All too often the final result is a medical mainstream ignorant of relevant research—surrounded by mavericks often working on the fringes of respectability. This system poorly serves the public interest.

The recent controversy over steroid use in pneumocystis succeeded where other efforts failed in alerting all physicians to this treatment development. It also made clear that the public will not stand for unnecessary withholding of lifesaving information. And hopefully it will focus professional attention on the larger problems in medical communication, and on how the dissemination of urgent treatment information can be improved.

## Acyclovir Resistant Herpes New Treatment Option?

Three anecdotal case reports have recently come to our attention about a potentially effective treatment for acyclovir-resistant herpes. The treatment, an ophthalmic (eye) solution called trifluridine (also called Viroptic, or trifluorothymidine), is available by prescription. It is currently used to treat patients with herpes simplex keratitis, an infection of the cornea of the eye.

The only published report on trifluridine treatment of acyclovir-resistant herpes in a person with HIV infection was presented at the Sixth International Conference on AIDS in San Francisco in June. This patient first had acyclovir-resistant herpes lesions which responded to foscarnet. However, a subsequent lesion was resistant to both acyclovir and foscarnet. Two other topical treatments (idoxuridine cream; interferon gel alone) were tried but failed in this patient before she responded to the combination of trifluridine and interferon with "considerable but incomplete healing."

Two other cases were discussed by Harold Kessler, M.D., of Chicago, at the recent meeting of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) in Washington, DC. Dr. Kessler emphasized that there is no proof that trifluridine is effective in acyclovir-resistant herpes, because there have been no studies of this treatment. In addition, he knows of a total of only four episodes of herpes in three patients who were treated with this drug. However, he agreed that this information should be made available to patients and physicians before the completion of a controlled study, as there are no alternative treatments currently available to people with herpes lesions that are resistant to both acyclovir and foscarnet.

Dr. Kessler described applying a thin film of the solution over a well-cleansed lesion. He then covered the lesion with a thin layer of Polysporin ointment to keep the solution in contact with the lesion. Gauze was placed over the lesion. The medication and dressing were changed three times a day. One patient (with a lesion of three by four centimeters) responded in four to five weeks. This patient relapsed with a lesion that was next to the original one. The second lesion healed within two weeks with treatment with trifluridine. A second patient was treated at another medical center and had a complete response in two weeks.

Dr. Kessler emphasized that this treatment is not a cure for herpes simplex infections. New lesions will occur after treatment with any anti-herpes drug. However, new lesions may be susceptible to acyclovir and/or foscarnet.

An open-label prospective study of this drug is being designed for people with chronic cutaneous herpes which is suspected of being acyclovir resistant. In the meantime, Dr. Kessler has requested that physicians trying trifluridine send viral isolates for acyclovir and foscarnet resistance testing to his laboratory in Chicago so that the effectiveness of trifluridine can be assessed before the official study is under way. Physicians can reach Dr. Kessler at (312) 942-5865.

*—by Michelle Roland*

## Oral Interferon: LA Study Finds No Benefit

An observational study of 167 patients using low-dose oral alpha interferon (the active ingredient in the "Kemron" treatment from Kenya) did not find any beneficial or harmful effect from the treatment. This study was conducted between June and October of 1990 by doctors Paul J. Rothman, D.O., and Robert Jenkins, M.D.; it was organized and financed by SEARCH Alliance, a new community-based research organization in Los Angeles.

The average T-helper count of the volunteers beginning the treatment was 141.4. The average after treatment was 131.8; the difference was small enough that it could easily have been due to chance. Statistical analysis also showed no difference in response between those who started with T-helper counts under 200, compared to those starting with higher counts.

While T-helper counts declined in most study participants, 25 percent had rises of greater than 10 percent in their baseline values. (Note: such rises can be caused by laboratory errors, and/or by the variable course of HIV infection. They do not necessarily mean that these patients benefited from the treatment.) P24 antigen was lower at weeks two and four than at baseline, but higher than baseline at weeks six and eight; neither result was statistically significant.

While this study cannot conclusively disprove the treatment—to do that would be almost impossible—it provides practical information that people need now. Supporters of Kemron can argue that there are different kinds of alpha interferon, and the medicine used by these study volunteers was not identical to that used in Kenya. Also, the doses could not be tightly controlled. And this was not a randomized trial, so there could be unknown biases due to self-selection by the volunteers who entered the study.

We find little practical weight in these arguments. There is no reason to believe that the small differences between various versions of alpha interferon could make the difference between a valuable treatment and no effect at all. As for dosage, if it was not controlled then it would have varied over a range which presumably would have included the effective dose in some volunteers; therefore, if the treatment worked at any dose, at least some average effect should have been seen. And it makes little sense to discount this study as not being a randomized controlled trial, since having a placebo or other control group would not have made the drug work any better than it did. People need practical answers quickly, not perfect answers in future years.

We commend SEARCH Alliance for its effectiveness in quickly organizing this study. The group announced its existence only five months ago. It has finished a useful study before most research organizations could have made the decision to start one.

For a copy of the data tabulation and analysis of this study, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: SEARCH Alliance, 7461 Beverly Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90036.

Back issues of AIDS Treatment News are available. For more information, call us at (415) 255-0588, or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: AIDS Treatment News, P.O. Box 411256, San Francisco, CA 94141.


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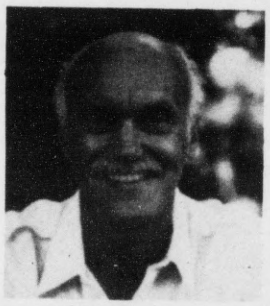

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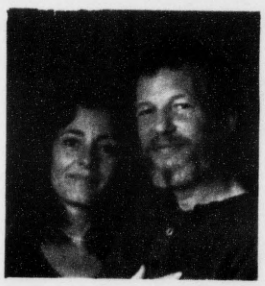

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# Soviet Gay Rights Activist Visits San Francisco

Photo by Jane Cleland

*Roman Kalinin (right) outside the Soviet consulate in San Francisco. SF Bay Times writer Jack Fertig holds the (roughly translated) "Paragraph 121 Nyet" sign, protesting the Russian anti-homosexuality law.*

BY JACK FERTIG

Roman Kalinin is a reluctant hero. The 24-year-old founder of *Tema*, the Soviet Union's first gay newspaper, is a slim, handsome man with the eyes of a forty-year-old and the intensity of one who knows he has sown the wind and shall reap a whirlwind. Indeed, he has harvested a storm of activity in his tour of the United States, addressing gay organizations in New York; the Creating Change Conference in Minneapolis; groups in Seattle and now San Francisco. By the time you read this, he'll have been to Tucson, Chicago, and back to New York, preparing to return to Moscow.

More organizations, more interviews, more, more, more. Whenever the lights and microphones turn away, you can see the change. He has been forcing himself to appear comfortable, working at expressing himself through interpreters; but he would much rather be alone with a word processor. He stutters a bit, and his English is effortful. He's been pushing himself arduously to bring the situation of Soviet gay men and lesbians to American attention.

Media attention in the West also gives him a greater margin of safety in a country where homosexuality is regarded officially as a form of schizophrenia. Soviet law allows that he could be put away and drugged into a living death. The "treatment" of "homosexual schizophrenia" is not unlike what some of our elders went through in the mid-century, insulin shock "therapy" ranking high on the list.

As in America, such treatments are more favored in the hinterlands than in relatively enlightened metropolitan areas. Roman refuses to speculate on whether his American trip will indeed provide safety or whether the attention will actually endanger him.

The attention is certainly wearying him. Being a media spectacle is a tiring job, and it's not one he wanted. He recalls the pain and isolation of growing up gay, and he wants the next generation of gay Russians to be spared that. It is supremely important for Russian gays and lesbians to have contacts in the West, and he is doing the necessary work.

Yes, it was hard to come to America. Oh, there was no trouble being allowed out of the Soviet Union. It was American officials who made it difficult, as they routinely do for single Soviet males, a class routinely suspected of intending to stay. It's not an unreasonable generalization, but Roman had mixed feelings about coming at all, and he yearns visibly to be back home.

A progressive city council in Moscow has been more receptive to Roman's efforts than has the national government. There as here, local officials are more sympathetic. Alas, the Communist Party has used the Association of Sexual Minorities to bait the city council. An old *babushka* janitor at the city hall was quoted as saying that after the Association had met with the Council the building was littered with used condoms. *Pravda* had an article on *Tema* describing it as a resource for necrophiles and pederasts.

He was eager to do as much as possible, and urged his San Francisco hosts, Julie Dorf and Kevin Gardner, to set up meetings and interviews. In five days, Roman has been to more meetings and activities than a hard core politico usually does in a month, not least of which were a Mayoral reception where Art Agnos declared Friday, November 16, to be Roman Kalinin Day.

Between a meeting with film producers Michael Lumpkin and Rob Epstein, and an evening run with the San Francisco Rubbermen, Roman was guest of honor at a fundraising reception for the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, of which he is the Russian co-chair.

After the party several of the organizers and volunteers ended up in a back yard jacuzzi. Invited to join, Roman turned as red as his flag and ran off to join the Rubbermen! (Out of the frying pan...!) Stalinism has not exactly nurtured the hedonism that cradled American gay culture. Their movement will have to be very different.

At the reception the IGLHRC kicked off the Sister Cities program to develop ties between gays and lesbians in Moscow and San Francisco. The first $100 pledges were taken, but the program remains open to all. Contributors may participate in a number of ways; sharing information and cultural resources, membership includes priority registration for the IGLHRC symposiums in Moscow and Leningrad to be held July 23 to August 3, 1991.

At noon on Monday, November 19, Queer Nation held the first queer demonstration ever seen at the Soviet Consulate, perhaps the first queer demonstration made to any Soviet government agency. While queers yelled "Glasnost! Perestroika! Tema!" and "Repeal Article 121!" (the Soviet Sodomy Law), signs proclaimed in Russian "Action=Life" "121= Death" "Raisa—There are also lesbians in the Soviet Union!" What's Russian for "We're here! We're Queer! And we're not going shopping!"? In loud, clear English the 30 demonstrators yelled, "We're Here! We're Queer! And we're not standing in line!"

Demonstrators are not usually allowed inside the consulate, but citizen Kalinin has a right to go in and meet with the officials therein. He was told politely that the problem of Article 121 is very complicated and will not be solved soon.

Afterwards at the Names Project, Roman watched a ten-minute video—in Russian—about the quilt. The tension and fatigue melted from his face as the story of the quilt unfolded. This is very powerful, indeed, but at this point—at least—it would not work in Russia. Cultural differences for one thing. Also, there have been relatively few AIDS deaths, and there AIDS is not so much associated with homosexuality.

Soviet agencies first blamed AIDS on the CIA. Later the line was that it was a disease of Western tourists and African students. Now that infants have been infected en masse with dirty needles at a pediatric ward, the disease takes on a whole new perspective.

Nonetheless, *Tema*, clearly addressing sexual issues, is providing safe sex information. Frank sexual discussion is not easy in Russia. Soviet-made condoms are of such inferior quality, it's almost irrelevant that they are expensive and hard to find. Because of these factors, an explosion of AIDS is expected, and safe sex information is all the more important.

More meetings, more interviews. Not enough time to see this beautiful city that he is fascinated with. Now Roman Kalinin is on his way back to the city he truly loves, Moscow, to do the work he loves as well, organizing the gay/lesbian community. He is turning *Tema* over to a new editorial board so he can move on to new projects, including AIDS education, the Sister Cities Program and the Gay Symposium next Summer. Soviet authorities will be watching him carefully, but they'll know that we're watching as well.

*For more information about the Gay & Lesbian Sister Cities Program, the Gay Symposium, or the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission, call Julie Dorf at 647-0453. or write to the IGLHRC, 2978 Folsom St., San Francisco CA 94110.*


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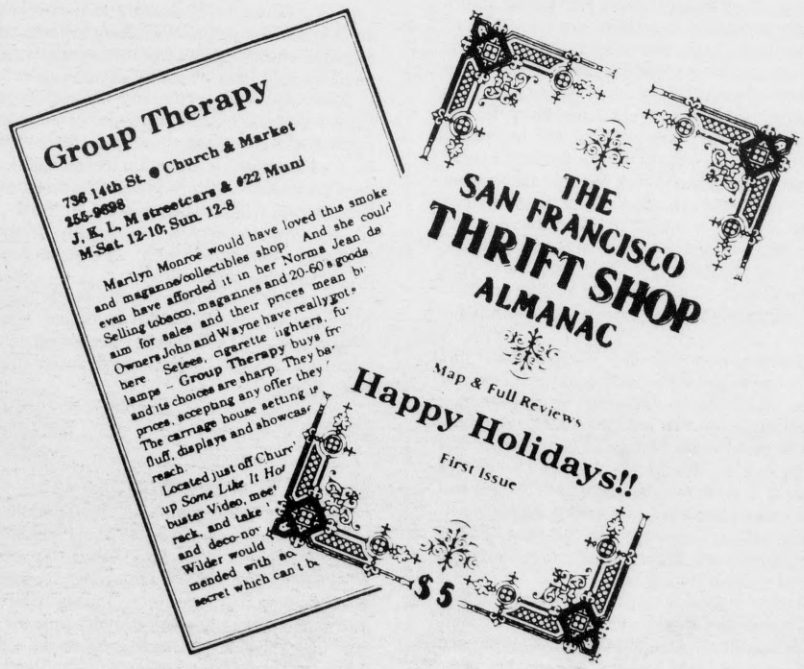


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# Letters...

*(continued from page 3)*

In fact, all the women selected to enter by the organizers were white, barely dressed and dangerously thin. When these women and the dancers who performed were on stage, they were insulted by the MCs and the audience alike. Some men even yelled things like "filthy tramp" and "dirty whore". Their attitudes were so openly vile that I was in tears before the evening was over. In fact the entire event seemed deliberately geared to exclude anyone who wasn't a white, middle-class, heterosexual man.

I don't know whether Abolafia & Mann will respond by changing the event so that it will become a welcome place for the entire community. As a bisexual woman, I feel that myself and other individuals and organizations who support people's rights need to take a stand against future events like this one. Since Abolafia & Mann are planning an Exotic Erotic New Year's Eve Ball, I feel that immediate action and possibly a visible protest are needed.

I would urge you to print this letter and/or do a story on this issue, and possibly the protest. I am looking forward to your response. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Eva Schweber
Santa Cruz

## "Block Vote"

There have been several letters from gay men recognizing lesbians for their support during this ongoing AIDS crisis. I want to acknowledge our gay brothers for their support through the ballot box for both Roberta Achtenberg and Carole Migden. Without their strong "block" vote, these lesbians would most likely have never been elected. Gay men understand something that straight men are obviously still having a problem with: Women can represent their interests as well as men. In this way, gay men on the whole are obviously more developed! When it comes down to the bottom line, lesbians and gay men support each other. We are a very wild family, but in the final analysis, a family.

Phyllis Burke
San Francisco

## So-called "Sexless Seventies"

Ah, what an exemplary social scientist our Joanne Loulan is: her data contradicts her thesis, so she calls the sources of her data liars and conformist cop-outs ("The Lesbian Erotic Dance," *SF Bay Times*, November 1990). Nor does she have a clue in the lesbian feminist herstory department either. But no problem—there are plenty of stereotypes of the anti-sexual feminist on which she can call to validate her fantasy that "our [lesbian] sexual identities" really have to do with a dynamic of attraction copied from heterosexuality.

The only thing lesbian feminists in the late sixties and early seventies could have done to "placate straight women" would have been to go back in the closet to protect the movement's image (Can you say "Lavendar Menace"?) Obviously, we took the very suggestion as an insult. We dumped butch/femme precisely because it was artificial and because it repressed our sexuality. In the pre-feminist lesbian bar scene, women had to pick one role and stick up to it, or be shunned as untrustworthy. Butch/femme was the basis of a pitiful plea for tolerance on grounds that we must be somewhat normal, because we, too, had a husband-type partner and a wife-type partner. Women were overjoyed to have an alternative community for which they could abandon this system.

So, Joanne, women in the '70s told you it was "imperative to identify as androgynous." And you *believed* them? Maybe *you* were "so programmed to be androgynous" that *you* "couldn't think of how else to be or how else to dress." But whether as a '70s hippie or an '80s lipstick lesbian, I've always had hair at least to my shoulders and lots and lots of wonderful woman lovers. Country hippies, professional women, suburban matrons and softball dykes—all of them feminists, all of them utterly delighted to have lesbian sex.

And while lesbian feminists debated monogamy versus non-monogamy, we took as a given that lesbian sex was utterly delightful and liberating; and the only question was how many women to make love with. *Amazon Quarterly* discussed how to get over the idea that we could only have sex in the context of a relationship, Tee Corrine was a cultural heroine, and the Orange County Dyke Patrol followed strategy meetings with games of Spin the Bottle. Had anyone been silly enough to tell us there were proper and improper ways to make love, we would have laughed in their faces.

Photo by Jane Cleland

*On November 27, the 13th anniversary of the assassinations of Harvey Milk and George Moscone, marchers followed the route from the Castro to City Hall. This year's march was a little different, though—the crowd celebrated the passage of domestic partners' legislation and the election of three gay officials—Harvey definitely would have loved it.*

It seems to me that many of the women now building up the mythology of the "Sexless Seventies" are in denial about how easily they gave in and went along with ideas they now say were rigid and repressive. Having bought into the hetero-patriarchy's stereotype of feminists as uptight and anti-sexual, they now feel compelled to outbimbo each other—just what *Playboy* is trying to trick the women of Mills College into doing. All Joanne Loulan has proven is that lesbians are living and loving however they choose—without PC or butch/femme. This is what lesbian feminism has always been about, and what the spineless weenies of any decade—with their pontifications of how to be a "real lesbian"—will never understand.

Sincerely yours,
Beth Elliott
Oakland

## The Dick of Society

Excessive psychotherapy fees are symptomatic of socio economic malaise too long ignored and grown deep within the peripheral culture of feminism. Money is the dick of society, I've heard, and it appears to be true. For all our feminist rhetoric, the dick has wagged beyond the dominant culture and found a sheath in our wallets, if not in our cunts. Worse, we pay homage to our father's values by wielding within our own ranks power inherent in his symbols of success, i.e., accumulated academic degrees, property ownership, class privilege. Until we extricate ourselves from divisive, man-made capitalist values, an equitable social ethic will not evolve from feminism. We cannot begin to correct injustice while we profit from the system we would undo. Plainly, it is a conflict of interest.

Again and again, I remind myself: Ours is a culture inimical to trust, a culture bent on control through division of the common wealth. Money is its Tool Formidable, isolation its safeguard. How we fairly crow when we name the isolation: independence, self-sufficiency, success. Verily, verily, the oppressed will not readily shake the oppressor—particularly when she benefits from and perpetuates her oppression.

Is there life beyond exploitative profit? Yes! Only it is ours to create—and this is our fear. Margaret Walker asks, "Of what value is freedom in a money-mad society?" In a money-made society, who is free? I ask.

Jeannine Toussaint-Caron
San Francisco

## Making Therapy Work

This letter is my opinion of the continuing series of the psychotherapy wars ("The Psychotherapy Wars," Letters, *SF Bay Times*, September-November 1990"). When I first moved to San Francisco I knew it was home. Coming from a very dysfunctional family who ran every time the going got tough I acquired the same patterns. I lived from Alaska to Tennessee to San Francisco and felt I didn't know what real roots are but longed to. I truly wanted to change that particular habit, along with many others. An associate who helped me get established gave me this Creed on Commitment that has been an excellent guide for me. You will find the Creed at the end of this article.

After starting therapy my therapist mentioned commitment and I was terrified to say yes to even one month of sessions but I did and slowly worked up to three months of committed time. I always remember how scared I was to say yes but can also look at the magic that was created during that time and I say yes to a lot more commitments in my life now.

The availability of money to pay for therapy has always amazed me as it has always been there. I remember when my income was $700 a month and my expenses were $1200. There was always money in my check book to pay for what I needed or had previously committed to. When I found full time employment it was a very small office, just my boss and me. He wanted to provide health care for me but I had to shop for it. What a bitch. Shopping for mental/health care was like asking Colonel Sanders for his secret recipe. I networked, took risks, even pulled a few eye teeth until I found someone who was willing to talk about mental health insurance as part of the regular health plan. All of the insurance companies I called were real willing to sell the physical part but not the mental part. Now my insurance coverage pays for half of my therapy.

That's not the end. I had to ask my therapist for help too. She agreed to become a provider and spends extra hours outside of our sessions trying to get paid by the insurance company, which she never charges me for. I believe my therapist works for me. My therapist and I discussed sex between us and it was very clear for both of us we would not have sex. Nor would it be an option for trade for her services. She does care, listen and provide a service I am very thankful for no matter how high the cost seems. I feel her expertise/support is well worth the price she asks.

Today I feel more balanced as a human being trying to function and deal with life and society. I no longer carry a chip on my shoulder thinking everyone out there is just waiting to dump on me or wondering when I will be loved. Of course, people still try to dump on me but I just say no thanks, I have my own stuff to deal with. And I am loved very much, first by myself.

In my opinion only lesbians (and all others) who want to change their old habits will. Because we all know we are worth it. Change is not an easy road to travel. We have a built-in program of resistance to it that is like a giant brick wall. I don't believe therapists are there to take us by the hand and say: This is the way, little girl. And at first it is what we want her to do. All too often we think the therapist is the good witch from fairy tale land and she will cast a magical spell on us to live happier every after. Wouldn't that be wonderful? I am sure there are good and bad therapists out there and I am not recommending or condoning therapists as a whole. I am more interested in letting people know about the inner magic that is powerful, trustworthy and waiting to be used. Therapists are just there to listen so we can figure it out for ourselves.

If you truly are not satisfied with your therapist ask yourself, why? Have you made a list of goals you want to work on? In and out of therapy. Is your therapist aware of these goals? Remember to update your goal list as you get your needs met. Are you committed to making the necessary changes? And it is OK to change your mind at any time along your journey. Just ask for guidance from your inner higher power and then accept and trust the answers you are given. I think about the story The Little Engine That Could. So can you.

Lu Ann Sullenberger
San Francisco

## Call for Info on Kids By Artificial Insemination

I am an adoptee and publish *Chain of Life*, a newsletter about adoption reform from a lesbian-feminist perspective. It explores various aspects of adoption and donor insemination, emphasizing the need to open adoption records so adult adoptees who want to can connect with their birthparents. A model bill to open records retroactively in California passed the Assembly earlier this year, but was defeated in a state Senate subcommittee in August. I am interested in making compassionate reunions possible when these are desired, and to improving the lives of everyone involved with adoption.

In April 1991, I am scheduled to give a workshop at the American Adoption Congress' conference, to be held near Los Angeles, on the topic of "A Lesbian Feminist Perspective on Adoption Reform." The AAC is a mostly non-gay organization that works for openness and honesty in adoption. I hope to show others what is possible in families, especially how lesbian and gay families can be role models for others using donor insemination.

I would like your help in obtaining stories about children conceived by donor insemination who had had (or tried to have) reunions with their donor-fathers. Is it mostly girls who want to meet their fathers? (Adult adoptees who search for their birthparents tend to be females over males 2 to 1 in New Zealand, where records are open). Is there a particular age at which children make this request? How do mothers handle it? How do the child's mother(s) and the donor's relationships change and evolve after they meet?

If you are willing to share stories of your experiences with me, please phone (415) 524-3586, or drop me a note at P.O. Box 8081, Berkeley, CA 94707. Naturally, I will not use your names in any articles or talks without your explicit permission. Pseudonyms are fine. Oh, and if your child has no interest whatsoever in his or her donor-father, I'd like to hear about that too.

Thanks very much,
Janine Baer
Berkeley

## PLO Terrorists

Sonja de Vries argues that describing the PLO as terrorists contributes to anti-Arab racism (Letters, *SF Bay Times*, November 1990). But, she stereotypes Zionists as European colonists. In fact, most Israelis are colored people of African or Asian descent. Millions of Hebrew people from Yemen, Iran, Morocco, Ethiopia, Kurdistan, Egypt, Iraq and Uzbekistan share together in Israel. India's entire Jewish society has been absorbed into Israeli society. That Ms. de Vries pictures the PLO as a well-developed governing body, with its own judiciary, then, distances them from their many acts of terror. The world has not forgotten that the PLO executed Israel's Olympic team in Munich, 1972. Nor have we forgiven PLO commander Ahmed Jibril of destroying Pan Am flight 103, killing mostly Americans, over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Her claim that the PLO has a judiciary is ludicrous. Was one of the 300 Palestinians, executed by the PLO during the intifadeh, sentenced in a PLO court? Why are there no books on Palestine legal precedents at the PLO bookstore? Why did Arafat not investigate the May 30, 1990 terror attack on Tel Aviv's tourist beach? The PLO has *no* legal system.

The PLO has never seriously initiated peace with Israel, or contributed to peace anywhere. The PLO massacred school children at Ma'alot within days of Yasser Arafat's 1974 United Nations address. Arafat supposedly recognized Israel, during a magazine interview, in 1988. PLO spokesman Farouk Kadoumi, denies that the PLO ever recognized Israel. Indeed, they have never submitted a text to the U.N. which avows their peaceful intentions or publicizes the borders of their state. The PLO national covenant declares, "Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine" and calls for the expulsion of Jews.

During the Lebanon civil war, the PLO attacked local Shiites and Christians. The PLO even attacked themselves. In 1984, PLO factions loyal to Syria mutinied against Arafat's Fatah movement. The PLO recently killed 87 Palestinians, as they cleared a rival Palestinian gang from Sidon. Arafat is currently aligned with Saddam Hussein.

If you call the PLO terrorist, Sonja de Vries will call you racist. Yet, she characterizes Zionists as colonists. A Boer may return to Holland. A Briton can go home to England. But the Jews cannot go back to Syria, or Libya. They came to Israel mostly as refugees. The Arabs must accept that their great empire has long gone. They have no right to control Israel, which was developed root and branch, by Jews. Arab leaders should follow Egypt, develop their countries, educate their masses. All that the

# We Won!!

Photo by Rink

*It doesn't get much sweeter than it got election night, November 1990, in San Francisco, when all three gay candidates and the Domestic Partner's legislation won their contests. Roberta Achtenberg (top right of upper left photo) was mobbed by a congratulatory crowd at her victory party and Carole Migden (above) shared a hug with Harry Britt at her party; both women won seats on the SF Board of Supervisors. Tom Ammiano (left) beat out* everbody, *getting the most votes for the SF School Board. And to top it all off, Domestic Partners' legislation, granting gay and lesbian couples in The City the right to register our relationships, cruised to an easy victory at the polls.*

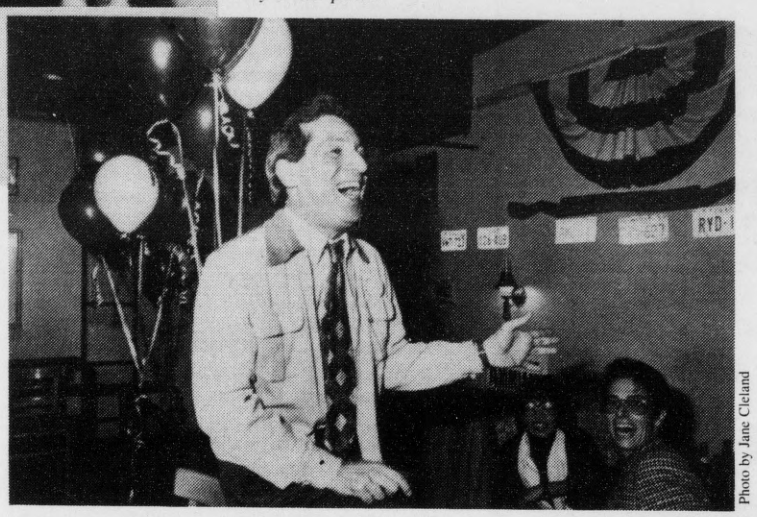

Photo by Jane Cleland

Photo by Rink

Hebrew people want is a scrap of land in the Near East and peace. They have had neither for nearly two thousand years. We hope that more and more gays will support the Israeli people in their struggle to exist, against all odds.

SF Gay/Lesbian Zionist Alliance
San Francisco

## Gay/Lesbian-Cuban Solidarity

There has been a long history of discord between the Cuban solidarity movement, particularly the Venceremos Brigade and the lesbian and gay communities in the U.S. Yet, many individual lesbians and gay men over the years have supported Cuba's effort to construct a socialist society under the nose of U.S. capitalism. In recent years, lesbians and gay men have openly participated on Venceremos Brigade contingents which, because of the U.S.-imposed trade and travel ban, is one of the few ways to visit Cuba.

As two lesbians who have participated in recent brigades to Cuba, we think it is critical for open lesbians and gay men who support the construction of socialism to participate on the Venceremos Brigade. The anti-gay policies of the Cuban government and the Venceremos Brigade have undergone many changes in the past three decades. The participation of lesbians and gay men have contributed directly to these changes as they have all over the world. Many Cubans have not had the experience of knowing out gay men or lesbians. Our personal experiences as open lesbians in Cuba reflected an honest ignorance of what being gay or lesbian means and an open curiosity to learn more. The negative attitudes have been much more evident from the U.S. members of the contingent. In recent brigades, lesbian and gay caucuses have been formed to challenge the ongoing heterosexism.

At the July town meeting discussing AIDS and lesbians/gays in Cuba, the call was made for an apology by the Venceremos Brigade for their historic exclusionary policy toward lesbians and gay men. The Bay Area Regional Brigade accepts the criticism and is leading the fight for a formal self-criticism and apology by the National Venceremos Brigade. We firmly believe that it is necessary for progressive and radical struggles to confront all forms of oppression if our ultimate goal of human liberation is to be met.

Lesbians and gay men are an essential part of the U.S. solidarity movement and have a significant contribution to make to Cuban solidarity efforts. We have risen to the challenge to defend the self-determination of many countries. Cuba's right to exist as an independent nation continues to be under attack by U.S. foreign policy, and our efforts to confront Bush are more important than ever. We urge you to apply for the 22nd contingent of the Venceremos Brigade to have the opportunity to see Cuba first-hand. The trip leaves end of April and returns early May. The cost is $950 to $1200, sliding scale. Call 824-9329 for an application. Deadline for applications is December 20th.

In Solidarity,
Sushawn Robb
Anne VanDerslice
San Francisco

## Cuban Boat People

Lisa Krieger's June 24th article in the *SF Chronicle* accusing Cuba of hiding the true numbers of the AIDS epidemic is based on several false assumptions. I am writing at this date because similar stories using data derived from Cuban exile doctors have appeared in numerous other popular press publications in recent months. First Ms. Krieger characterizes the Muriel "boatlift" group of immigrants as a sample (she calls it a "snapshot," whatever that means) of the Cuban population in 1980. This is unlikely, the INS as well as the Reagan Administration accused the Cuban government of emptying Cuban jails and forcing the Muriel evacuation. INS statements and studies have characterized this population as possessing a majority who have experienced incaraceration at some time in their lives. The INS stepped back from earlier claims that is was basically a prison population. Even if we assume that the frozen blood samples taken by the INS in 1980 from the Muriel group represent individuals of whom fifty percent have been in Cuban jails we could hardly claim to have an even remote representative sample of the Cuban population in 1980. Actual testing to date of the U.S. prison population for HIV infection runs between six and thirty percent, using Ms. Krieger's projection to the U.S. general population would result in a patently false conclusion. Prison populations in many countries have been found to have much higher HIV infection rates than the general population, this is due, in part, to the sexual activities among inmates and the lack of condoms as well as the high percentage of I.V. drug abusers.

Given the dire consequences of the AIDS epidemic it would be more constructive if articles were written with less politically inspired accusations and more constructively meant criticism. I would hope that some press reports on the subject would be inclined to question the data presented by popular writers like Lisa Krieger. I hope the *Bay Times* will find it in their readers' interest to do so.

Sincerely,
Niccolo Caldararo

## Kitty Says Thanks

I wish to thank all my friends and supporters, proud leathermen and leatherwomen, for their love, friendship and encouragement that enabled me to come out with pride into leather, being a public figure. I am moving to Chicago and wish to take this opportunity to say, till we meet again, play safe, be well, stay strong and healthy. I will see you in Living In Leather in 1991 in Chicago. Until then you can catch me on the streets of the Windy City or on the pages of the November/December issue of *On Our Backs*!

To my first s/m lover, B.C. Cliver, International Ms. Leather 1988, First Runner Up, thank you for the training and for your love. You will always be first in my heart.

To the lesbian/gay morality police, I say, respect diversity!

Sincerely,
Kitty Tsui
San Francisco

## Subhuman Breeders Invasion

I hate babies. Pushed in our faces in ever-increasing numbers, up and down the sidewalks of the Castro in cute little pink and blue strollers, they are symbols-made-flesh of heterosexist arrogance. These subhuman breeders are the real perverts, for using their own children as frontline artillery in this war on same-sex lovers. Their disdain, hatred, and (sometimes) fear is written all over their monkey faces. Perhaps they will think twice about "strolling" our neighborhoods once an outraged queer wrests a pudgy, howling blob of protoplasm from its stroller, and tosses it into the oncoming traffic or through the window of Welcome Home, or stuffs it into a mailbox for overnight delivery. (Or once a basher is bashed back and roped to a tree in Collingwood Park, entrails spilled onto his lap with a sign on the chest: "Homophobe.") Don't tell me that you, queer reader, do not also entertain such thoughts of retribution from time to time.

The historical roots of modern homophobia lie in the early Hebrews' need to propagate in order to outnumber their tribal enemies... thus it became a heinous sin for any male to "spill seed" outside of a woman's "vessel." Same-sex love was therefore incorporated by their religious leaders to be an abomination in the eyes of God. (Christianity's emergence carried forth this heterosexist supremacy into modern times with a vengeance so cruel that it can only be deemed as mass insanity or "psychosis.") Perhaps this extreme measure was a necessary evil, as a matter of survival to a tribe threatened with annihilation by enemies on every side. But that was several thousand years ago, and now we live in a world far too populated for its own well-being.

Perhaps it is time for God to reverse the ancient law of homophobia, and declare it a mortal sin *not* to waste seed. Perhaps we should no longer "turn the other cheek" (to use the Fundamentalists' own Christian terminology), but revert to the ancient Mosaic Law of "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth" (or in this case, "a baby for a life"). Perhaps it is time for a "New Passover," only this time for queers—sacrificing the firstborn of every breeder in San Francisco as Yahweh's warning to give us our freedom. Perhaps the act of "breeding" (without strict social guidelines) should now be made a crime punishable by death. Enforced spilling of seed anywhere *except* in a woman's vessel may be the "necessary evil" to save us from global disaster... and will put a new meaning to the phrase "turn the other cheek" (roll over, honey).

Remember, homophobic swines, that you do not "make" a baby—only genetics can do that. Woman is just the vessel. It is how you *raise* a child that counts... which has nothing to do with whether one's parents are "natural" or not. As a matter of fact, the current rise in child abuse (and neglect) by heterosexist parents is so alarming that even a test tube would provide a safer haven to these hapless offspring. It takes no brains to insert rod "A" into slot "B"... which is the only reason you illiterate homophobic simians can breed at all. And the only reason most of you breed your brains out is to assure each other that you are *not* homosexual... with your fleshy offspring as your "Good Housekeeping seal of approval" to parade before us queers in our own neighborhoods. Stop fucking and read a good book for once in your life.

Sincerely
Gene Catalano
President, The Lavendar Mafia
San Francisco

Photo by Rink

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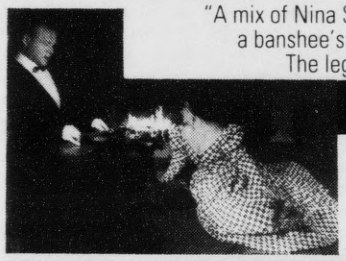

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**GAY COMEDY NIGHT**

with Emcee **MARIO MONDELLI**
***Every Saturday • 10 PM • $8***
**Dec 1:** Tom Ammiano, Scott Capurro, Marilyn Pittman
**Dec 8:** Danny WIlliams, Maureen Brownsey, Dan Morgan
**Dec 15:** Karen Williams,
Laurie Bushman & Kelly Kittell, Suzy Berger
**Dec 22:** Karen Ripley, Marilyn Pittman, Lisa Geduldig

**SUNDAY MUSICALES**

***4 PM • $6***
**Dec 9:** **The Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band**
**Dec 16:** Cabaret Vocalist **Samm Gray**
**Dec 30:** Jazz Era Trio **The Jesters**

Josie's encourages patrons to take mass transit. The cabaret is well-served by MUNI buses # 8, 24, 35 & 37, and by METRO cars J, K, L & M. For those who drive, the Market-Noe Parking Garage (above Tower Records; entrance on Noe just North of Market) offers discounted parking for Josie's customers. Call **Josie's** for details.

**3583 16TH ST. (at Market), SAN FRANCISCO**
**RESERVATIONS FOR ALL SHOWS: 861-7933**


# ASTROLOGY

BY JACK FERTIG

## In A Handbasket

Let's see....

The economy is going to hell in a handbasket (Paging Ms. Helena Handbasket...). Bush is gearing up for a war (February looks like the time for a strike, although I still think the major objective is to establish justification for a prolonged military presence). What else can go wrong to complicate the holiday season?

Mercury is turning retrograde in a lo-o-o-o-ong conjunction to Uranus. Mercury actually turns retrograde on Friday the 14th at 1:09 P.M., but the conjunction lasts from the 7th to the 20th. This isn't entirely bad. If you want to protest against any current governmental policies it could even be very good!

Uranus and Mercury are two examples of the Trickster-god. In many (if not all) primal cultures there is/was a gay god who would somehow disrupt things and keep life interesting. In classical Greek culture he was Hermes (Mercury to the Romans), although since its discovery in 1781, Uranus has shown its own propensity for queer provocations far beyond Mercury.

Mercury and Uranus are planets of thought. Mercury rules communication and detail processing; Uranus is the planet of invention, innovation and eccentricity. The best we can do at this time is to look for new ways to think and reconsider our approaches to whatever matter is at hand. Bugs in our system will stick their wascally wabbit fingers into the shotguns of outmoded thought. And the backfire will be just as noisy and dirty as the cartoon.

Be ready for something entirely different. Don't hang on too tightly to your plans. The month will be disruptive, but take it as an adventure into the unknown and you can enjoy the many surprises that will come your way. An excellent thing to remember is that life is what happens while you're busy making plans. Don't worry about your plans. Enjoy life.

### SUN SIGNS

**ARIES:** This is a season for religious indulgences. Of course, so much of it is stuff and hypocrisy. You may feel especially compelled to share your enlightened perspective with the rest of the world, and aren't they eager to hear it??? Like, sit down and give it a rest. You may enjoy some spirited discussions on the true meaning of the holidays, but be sensitive to those whom you engage in discussion. For one thing you'll learn a few things if you listen. For another, you'll preserve friendship and gain respect if you show yourself as willing to let go of the argument. Practicing some openness of mind and spirit will open up more within you than you would have imagined.

**TAURUS:** Simple discussions grow all too easily into apparent life and death struggles. You do need to challenge your wit and your depth of thought, but the way to do that is to challenge your own depth, not to run down people around you. You have some recent ideas about sex, death and transcendence. Some of those ideas are right on. Some need to be re-examined. Easy does it. Novel approaches to sexuality can offer the most enjoyable way to explore new territory, but you're also challenged to take up other, less entertaining, explorations. If you take the deeper challenges you can find deeper satisfaction.

**GEMINI:** You and your partner should have some very spirited discussions! Misunderstandings come very easily this month. The more you insist that you understood what s/he said and that s/he's missing the point of what you told her/him, the greater the misunderstandings will grow. Step back, re-iterate, paraphrase. Imagine that the two of you don't speak the same language. That's how it will feel anyway. If you don't have a partner in particular, you'll find this same sort of confusion creeping into your more important relations. Any contracts signed now will become totally snafued; legal proceedings are almost doomed to bizarre complications. You are especially affected by Mercury transits, so the current insanity hits you particularly hard. Be playful and open, be willing to review and retrace your steps and to try new approaches. Lean heavily on your natural flexibility and quick-wittedness and you can actually come out way ahead—just not in the direction you intended originally.

**CANCER:** Slow down and breathe deeply! Things really aren't so bad, but small problems at work—and with your health—are likely to snowball if you push too hard at them. What we used to call "mystic images" are now known as "analogies." Here's one for you: You're given a pickaxe and told to go solve your problems. Your problem is that the window is dirty. Do you bash out the window with the pickaxe? How about tying a rag to the head and using it to wipe the window clean? You'll need some ingenuity and roundabout approaches to handle your problems, but you can do it. If at first you don't succeed, try a different approach. Watch your breathing and nerves. Tension and anxiety feed into themselves and exaggerate other problems. Meditate, rest, and then tackle your problems with a clearer mind from a different direction. Discussion proves helpful, teamwork gets complicated.

**LEO:** Read lots of Gertrude Stein or James Joyce. Nothing makes much sense anyway, and your mind can reel from the effort of trying to put things into rational order. Forget rational order. Open yourself up to new and unusual entertainments. Creative projects go blooey if you keep to the patterns you've set. The best way to further such creative efforts right now is to be, ummmmm, creative. Whatever you've been working on/playing with is going off in a different direction and it will change again. While Mercury is retrograde, you'll do better if you let the process tell you what it wants rather than trying to manage it. Pay attention to your inner child or s/he'll go to Disneyland and leave you moping at home alone.

**VIRGO:** When everything else fails, just put on your cowgirl dress and sing, "Home, homo deranged." Domestic issues are likely to come up for you this month, and the harder you try to control things the crazier it's going to get. It's a good time for cleaning projects. You're likely to throw things out now that you'd otherwise never dream of parting with. Divine inspiration to simplify life? Or satanic influences casting out things you dearly love and can't do without? Church lady says, you be the judge. Roommates are especially prone now to get on your nerves. Family even worse. Go to Mazatlan with your lover and let the relatives feel abandoned. They'll get over it. Sign the register at Silly Hall and call the trip a honeymoon! Then you can get something out of Prop K. Isn't that special!? Actually, family issues can stand a little scrutiny right now. Surprising insights, but no clear answers that really work. (Any clear answers at this time are highly suspect, reconsider later!)

**LIBRA:** Have you ever been in a country where everybody speaks a different language? Bienvenido! Irrashaimase! Here you are! Whatever you say is likely to be misinterpreted and what you hear is not what they meant to tell you. Any language skills you have will come in handy. Treat every language, even your native tongue, as a new mode of communication. Try not to take things too seriously. Borrow *Everybody's Autobiography* when Leo's through with it. You may as well read Gertrude Stein read Gertrude Stein read read Gertrude Stein as she is read read Gertrude Stein read as she is read reading as she is read read what is read reading the read and the unread reading read reading unread and reading. You may as well and well you may may well. May in December you may. Well, you get the point. This whole month is one of weird communications, so you may as well have fun with it. For you, Dear Libra, the trick will be to let go and let people say and do what they will, realizing that it has nothing to do with you.

**SCORPIO:** Wouldn't it be nice to have all your books balanced before the year is up and then you can start the new year with your accounting all in shape? Forget it. Your eagerness to get ahead on money matters will only trip you up and it will be like accounting with the help of a tar baby. Write down your novel ideas and save them for later. Go slowly and make an effort to keep nice, neat records of your transactions. Go slowly. This is a nice time to think about what's really important in your life. Values change through one's life and you will be challenged now to re-assess some of your priorities. Money problems may complicate your holidays, but you can find a cheap and creative way to express the generosity of your spirit to those you really care for.

**SAGITTARIUS:** It's a good thing you like adven-

*(continued on page 54)*

THE SAN FRANCISCO
# BAY TIMES CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAY AREA

# COMING UP!

COMPILED BY
MAXINE MORRIS

## 1
## ■ SATURDAY

**Picture Your Pet with Santa!** Holiday pet portraits from the SF SPCA, today & tmw, for info see Parents & Kidsbox.

**Black Nativity**: Allen Temple Cantateers perform their 9th annual production of Langston Hughes song-play. The first act retells the biblical story of Christ's birth thru stirring gospel & traditional hymns & carols, and dance sequences. The second act is a recreation of a 1940's revival mtg in which the message is shared thru testimony & gospel songs from the period, plus inspirational carols. Produced & directed by Betty Gadling, Minister of Music at Allen Temple Baptist Church. Performances 2 & 7:30 pm today, 6 pm tmw. Tix: $15 adults, $8 srs & youth ages 12-21, $6 kids ages 4-11. At Calvin Simmons Theatre, 10th & Fallon Sts, Oakland. Info: Betty Gadling 642-0304.

**"Cody's for Cooks"** Stellar AIDS Benefit: part of World AIDS Day events. Five authors give demos & tastings of their specialties, including: John Shields, authors of *The Chesapeake Bay Cookbook;* Bruce Aidells & Denis Kelly, authors of *Hot Links & Country Flavors: Sausages in American Regional Cooking;* Jay Harlow, author of *Art of the Sandwhich* and Alice Medrich, founder of Berkeley's premier chocolate shop, Cocolat & author of *Cocolat*. 2-4 pm at Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Cody's will donate a portion of proceeds to the Center for AIDS Services in Oakland. Info: 845-7852.

**Holiday Party** spons by UCGALA: come celebrate the holidays with Univ of Calif Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc, in a private Noe Valley home. Call Ed 641-9187 for info. $10.

**First Gift of the Season**: gala fundraiser to benefit the Chinatown/North Beach YWCA's educational, cultural & recreational programs for youth & adults. Delicious hors d'oeuvres, dancing to live music, and dance exhibitions. 7-10:30 pm. 940 Powell St, SF. For tix & other info call 397-6883.

**2nd Annual Lesbian TV Party** spons by Frameline. Hosted by Ms Southbay Leather & lesbian filmmaker Connie Boy Steinman. Eve of contemporary works by lesbian video artists, including Connie Boy's 1990 film *Jackie & the Beanstalk*. Also works by Chris Robbins, Susan Bahns, Cecilia Dougherty & Azian Nurduian. 7 pm, $7 at The Box, 628 Divisadero St, SF. Followed by a night of dancing! Proceeds benefit Frameline. Info: 861-5245.

**JoAnn Loulan**, nationally known author, sex educator & therapist, presents an evening of humor & provocative views on lesbian sexuality, a celebration of her latest book, *The Lesbian Erotic Dance: Butch, Femme & Other Rhythms*. 7:30 pm, followed by a dessert reception. Proceeds benefit the Women's Bldg's Women with HIV/AIDS Program, which provides support for women with HIV/AIDS. Tix: $12 in adv, $15 at door, call 431-1180 for info. 3543 18th St, SF.

**Anna Maria Flechero** in concert at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. 8 pm, $6-8. Women only. Info: 428-9684.

**Sankai Juku** (butoh dance) at UC Berkeley Zellerbach Hall: Powerful, beautiful performance about the unmasking of spiritual life & human emotions. The company's aesthetic originates in butoh dance of the 1960s, the creation of Japanese dancers who challenged the traditional movements of Kabuki & Noh dance. Butoh speaks the language of the body, expresses innocence, wonder, fear & mortality. Sankai Juku presents a seven-scene, one-act performance entitled *Unetsu*. 8 pm, $22, $18 & $13. Info: CalPerformances 642-9988.

**Over Our Heads:** music & comedy improv at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St, SF. Come laugh your head off! 8 pm, $6-8 SL. Info: 821-0232.

**Girls in the Night:** 12th Anniversary Party at Amelia's, 647 Valencia St, SF. Info: 552-7788. See you there!

**The Fabulous Lypsinka Show** starring Lypsinka at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint. Lypsinka's drag lip-synching tour de force continues to play to exuberant, sell-out audiences in her first SF run. Tonight & tmw at 8 pm, $10. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

**Harry Kipper** presents a solo work, "a vocal rant & rave using musical instruments, dolls, found objects, many books & my baggy British body". 8 pm, $8, part of proceeds benefit AIDS indigent direct services. At New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St, SF. Produced in conjuction with Visual AIDS: Day Without Art. Info: 626-5416.

**Ruth Botchan Dance Co** in concert at Open Arts Circle. Program highlight: premiere of "Dream of Wild Animals", based on a dream the choreographer had while traveling in the Yucatan. Dance illuminates our relationship to wilderness. 8:30 pm tonight, 2:30 pm tmw, $9 gen'l, $7 stdnts & srs. 530 E. 8th St, Oakland. Info/res: 848-4878.

**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video** show airs tonight & 12/15 at 8:30 pm on cable 6 in Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, East Palo Alto & Stanford. Tonight's program: UCSF Professor Harold Cottram tlaks about his study of HIV in Black men. 12/15 program features highlights from the show's past year, plus a look ahead to the future.

**The Egg Dance** by Gay White & Leigh Evans: "a beautifully woven dance/theatre performance piece," "an original blend of politics, satire, movement & comedy", "kinky high tea, twisted charm school, a six-course visual banquet". Choreographed, written & performed by Evans & White, with special appearance by Sheldon Norberg of the Underworld Opera. 8:30 pm, $8. Tonight at New College of California, 777 Valencia St, SF; 12/7 & 8 at Live Oak Theater, 1301 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: 654-0388.

**Other Cinema Series** at ATA (Artists Television Access): spoken word performers Marc Olmsted & Gary Schwantee unleash a new volley of jazz-musical poems, an update of the impassioned methods of SF's oral tradition. Also clips of Jack Kerouac, Neal Cassidy, Jim Morrison, John Giorno and others. 8:30 pm, $5. 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.

**Free Plant Clinic** offered by the University of California's Botanical Garden. Bring your sick plants or cuttings to the clinic, where Dr Bob Raabe, associate director of the garden, and entomology expert Rachel Freeman will answer questions & prescribe treatments. In the Botanical Garden Meeting Room on Centennial Drive, Berkeley. 9 am-noon. Info: 642-3343.

**Considering Therapy?** Wkshop for anyone considering or actually shopping for a therapist. Includes assessment & clarification of issues, discussion of fees & insurance, demystication of various techniques & modalities, patients' rights & how to get started. Half-day wkshop, $20. Repeats on 12/15 & 12/29. Info: Alex Mackenzie, MFCCI 252-0160.

**Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay** Community Ctr & SCAP Benefit Rummage Sale: 9 am-3 pm in the SCAP parking lot, 1606 Soquel Ave, Santa Cruz. Call Tom for info, donations pick-up, or to help. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.

**Rock at El Rio tonight:** *MDC, Flipper & Blister*. 10 pm, $5. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

**Mission Peak Hike**/Mission Peak Regional Reserve, with SF Hiking Club. East of Mission San Jose & Fremont, in southern Alameda County. Moderately strenuous hike, 7 miles, 2,200 ft elevation. Meet 9:30 am under the big Safeway sign at Market & Dolores, SF. Transportation 80 miles roundtrip, $9 per car (mileage & bridge toll) to be shared among passengers. Directions: Take Bay Bridge & hwy 580, then 980 to 880, and 880 South to Fremont. Go left on Stevenson Blvd, right on Fremont Blvd, left on Washington Ave, right on Mission Blvd, take the next left after Ohlone College entrance, and park to the left. Bring drinking water & lunch. Rain cancels *only if heavy*, for light rain or showers bring raingear. Info: Felix Smith 826-2332 BEFORE 11 pm.

**Pueblo to People**: 6th annual Latin American Holiday Crafts Fair: 10 am-5 pm today, noon-5 pm tmw. Features traditional music, Central American food, weaving demos, audiovisuals of Latin America, and more. Admission free. Proceeds benefit the peasant & refugee craftspeople of Central & Latin America. College Ave Presbyterian Church, 5951 College Ave, nr Rockridge BART Station, Oakland. Info: 465-4044.

**The Nat'l Institute of Art & Disabilities** Holds its Annual Holiday Fair thru 12/31. Sale of jewelry, prints, cards, sculpture, ceramics & paintings created by disabled artists. 551 23 St, Richmond. Info: 620-0290.

**7 Steps to Healing** Wkshop: A healing model for adults recovering from childhood abuse. Wkshop for Survivors today, 10 am-5 pm, $70. Eastbay location. Info/res: Rachel Bat Or, MA, MFCC, 428-0361. See 12/8 for clinicians' wkshop.

**What Do Leatherfolk** Toss Out When They Get Clean & Sober? Come to today's Leather Sidewalk Sale & find out! 10 am-3 pm at Church Street Station, SF. Find the perfect gift—prices can't be beat! Benefit for the L/SM Round-Up.

**Holiday Open House** at Benicia Glass Studios: today & tmw, 10 am-5 pm at 675 and 701 East H Street in Benicia. View glassmaking demos at each studio, purchase fine glass pieces. Info: (707) 745-2614.

**Berkeley Potters Guild**, the Bay Area's largest cooperative of professional potters, opens their studio doors for their 19th annual Christmas Show & Sale, today & tmw and 12/8 & 9, 15 & 16 and 22 & 23. 10 am-6 pm. 731 Jones St, Berkeley. Info: 524-7031.

**Surviving As An Artist:** a day-long wkshop on the realities of the art world. Includes a range of often-unaddressed issues that cultural workers face in the studio, the gallery, the community & the home. Presentations combine "how-to" discussions of topics like job hunting with those addressing philosophy & ethics. Each presentation questions the relationship of personal art work to the larger institutional systems in which it takes place. Spons by Capp Street Project. 10 am-5 pm. Capp Street Project, 270 14th St btwn Mission & South Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 626-7747.

**Gay Comedy Night** at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St, SF. Emcee Mario Mondelli & comics Marilyn Pittmann, Scott Capurro & Tom Ammiano. 10 pm, $8. Info: 861-7933.

**A People's Speakout Against War** in the Middle East: 10:30 am-5 pm at the SEIU Hall, 240 Golden Gate Ave, SF. Spons by broad range of organizations including SF Labor Council Executive Committee, Justice & Peace Commission of the Catholic Archdiocese of SF, Women's Int'l League for Peace & Freedom, Coalition for Civil Rights, Emergency Committee to Stop the US War in the Middle East, the Int'l Ctr for Peace & Justice, the Gray Panthers, & many more. Nat'l, state & local elected officials will hear the testimony of community, labor & religious representatives. Info: 621-1371 or 863-7146.

**Deck the Hall:** SF Symphony's annual children's party—treat the kids to a festive holiday party, see Parents & Kidsbox for details.

**Oakland Glass Artists** Open Studio & Sale: glass works by Bruce Pizzichillo & Dari Gordon on sale today & tmw, 11 am-5 pm at 2690 Union St, Oakl. Info: 832-8380.

**The Victorian Holiday Faire**: today & tmw at First Unitarian Church of SF. Come be transported back to the time of Queen Victoria. Shops in a pseudo-Victorian village offer antique linens & handicrafts, gourmet foods & baked goods, wreaths, holly & unique holiday decorations. Food & festivities include a bawdy English pub serving beer & wine; hearty English fare; and a Victorian tea room. Also entertainment by musicians, jugglers & magicians. Silent auction and children's game room. Everyone welcome to come have fun while shopping! Childcare available. $3 gen'l, $1 srs & kids. Proceeds benefit the programs of the First Unitarian Church. Wheelchair Accessible. Noon- 6 pm today & tmw. 1187 Franklin at Geary St, SF. Info: 776-4580.

## 2
## ■ SUNDAY

**Holiday Decorations Wkshop** spons by the Friends of the UC Botanical Gardens. Come learn how to deck your halls with California native plants & other natural materials, create fragant wreaths & arrangements in this workshop led by botanist Wayne Roderick. 1-4 pm in the Meeting Room at the Bontanical Garden, on Centennial Drive in Berkeley. Limited to 18, so register early, for info call the Visitor Center 642-3343.

**Holiday Open House** at Haas-Lilenthal House includes traditional fare & music, auction & sale of holiday gifts. 1-4 pm, $5. Also special appearance by Santa Claus at 3 pm! Spons by the Foundation for SF's Architectural Heritage. Info/RSVP: Heritage 441-3000.

**Chanukah Songs & Storytelling** for Kids at Magnes Museum, see Parents & Kidsbox for details.

***A Gathering of Flowers:*** *Stories About Being Young in America*—editor/contributor Joyce Carol Thomas, and contributors Al Young, Gary Soto, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, Gerald Haslam, Maxine Hong Kingston & Rick Wernli give a signing/discussion of this new multi-ethnic, mulitcultural anthology of stories for young adults that covers the full range of rich colors & voices that make up America's youth. 2 pm at Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 845-7852.

**What's So Good About Growing Old?**—is the topic at today's G40 Plus Club mtg: discussion with David Silven, plus rollicking raffle wrought by Romeo—bring an anonymously wrapped gift. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary, SF. Info: 552-1997.

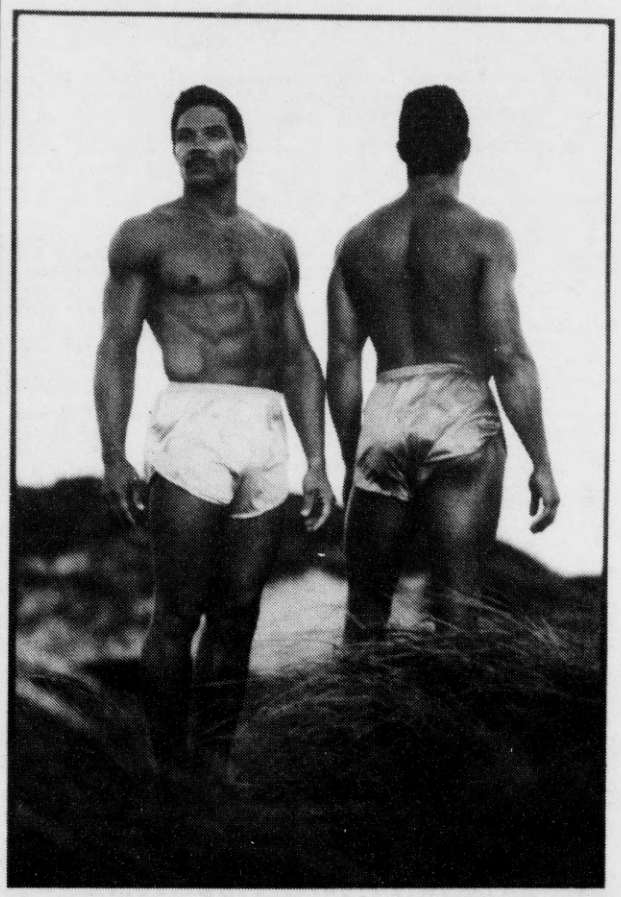
**Ruth Botchan Dance Co** in "Dream of Wild Animals", see 12/1 listing for details.

***The Eroica Trio***, a young & exciting piano trio comprised of 3 prize-winning women—violinist Adela Pena, cellist Sara Sant'Ambrogio & pianist Erika Nickrenz—make their SF debut on the Morrison Artists' Series at SF State University. 3 pm, free. Program includes works by Beethoven, Lieberman & Brahms. McKenna Theatre, Creative Arts Bldg, SFSU, 1600 Holloway Ave, SF. Info: 338-2467.

***Takacs Quartet***, leading exponent of the Central European quartet tradition, in concert today & 12/9 at 3 pm at Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley. Program: Bartok/String Quartets 1-6 (Quartets 1, 3 & 5 today, 2, 4 & 6 on 12/9). Tix $20. Info:

**"ExtravaGAPA Cultural Images"—an evening of cultural entertainment with Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. Dec 2 has info.**

**"Novembermoon"—it's the "Best of Festival" throughout the month at the Castro Theatre, brought to us by Frameline, producers of the Int'l Lesbian/Gay Film Fest. See Dec 5.**



**Steve Baratz work is among that featured in "Cheap Art"—a show and sale of the work of gay and lesbian artists. It's the 2nd weekend in December—check the 8th and 9th for details.**

CalPerformances 642-9988.
**Women & War in the Persian Gulf**: speakers & discussion. Soheir Morsy, visiting professor of Development & Middle Eastern Studies at UC Berkeley speaks on the history of the Gulf region; Jane Hunter, editor & publisher of *Israeli Foreign Affairs* speaks on US intervention & its impact on women in the area, and on women serving in the US military; unconfirmed speakers scheduled to speak on "Restructuring of the US economy—racism, sexism & the economic draft" and "Palestinian women & the Intifada". 3-6 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. Please bring your questions/thoughts on these issues, there will be discussion period.
**Lev Raphael** reads from & discusses his collection of short stories, *Dancing on Tish B'Av*. 3:30 pm at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.
**Handel's "Messiah" sung in Spanish** with the Boricua College Chorus of New York City. Work translated into Spanish by Abraham Lind-Oquendo, the chorus' music director & conductor, and an int'lly known star of opera, concert & stage. 4 pm, free. Tix limited, to order send SASE to Today's Artists Concerts, PO Box 465, Berkeley CA 94701 or call 527-3622 for info. At Church of St Joseph the Worker, 1640 Addison St, Berkeley.
**In Celebration of Women Writers**: an evening with June Jordan, Isabel Allende, Harriet Lerner & Holly Near. 4-8 pm at the Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak St, Oaland. A dialogue among women writers, sharing perpsectives on art & politics, exploring the sources from which they create. Tix: $25 includes dialogue, $65 dinner & dialogue. Proceeds benefit Redwood Cultural Work. Dinner tix must be reserved in adv, call 835-1445. Wheelchair Accessible. Parking available in Museum garage. Info: 428-9191.
***St Francis Brass Ensemble*** in concert at Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento St, SF. 4 pm, $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. Info: Old First Concerts 474-1608.
**SF Boys Chorus** Annual Holiday Concert—see Parents & Kidsbox for details.
**At El Rio:** *Candela*—5-8 pm, $5, followed by dj dancing, 8 pm-midnight. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.
**At ClaireLight Women's Books:** Karen Signell, author of *Wisdom of the Heart*, signs copies of her book at 2 pm. Free. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.
**Tamalpa Institute/Dancers' Wkshop** 35th Anniversary Party: 5-9 pm at Strawberry Recreation Ctr, 118 East Strawberry Dr, Mill Valley. Live music, slides & videos, food, cash bar, lots of dancing. A celebration of 35 years of instinctive movement. Tix $20 per person in adv, $25 at door. Info: 461-9479.
**Carmen de Monteflores** reads from her first book, the bilingual novel, *Singing Softly/Cantando Bajito*. She also discusses the influences which have shaped her work & guided her on her journey as an artist. 7 pm at the Brick Hut Cafe, 3222 Adeline St, Berkeley (nr Ashby BART). Info: 658-5555.
**"ExtravaGAPA—Cultural Images,"** program showcases the talents of Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) members in the fields of music, dance & drama. Evening of fine cultural entertainment begins at 7 pm at Cowell Theater, Ft Mason Ctr, SF. Show has an East-West theme and a gay Asian/Pacific American perspective. Tix $12 adv, $15 at door. Info/res: 282-GAPA.
**Black Nativity**: 9th annual production of Langston Hughes' song-play. See 12/1 listing for details.
**Journalist Mike Hippler** reads from *So Little Time* & discusses his experiences as a journalist for the gay press at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St, SF. 7:30 pm. Info: 431-0891.
**The Fabulous Lypsinka** at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/1.
**Holiday Open House** at Benicia Glass Studios—see 12/1.
**"Meowy Christmas"**, 17th Annual All-Housecat Show, proceeds to benefit the SF SPCA, see Parents & Kidsbox for details.
**Berkeley Potters Guild** Christmas Show & Sale—see 12/1 listing for details.
**Vito Russo Memorial** at the Castro Theatre: memorial for the noted author (*The Celluloid Closet*) & film historian who died of AIDS on 11/7 in New York City. A vocal & militant activist since the days of Stonewall, Russo was a founder of GLAAD & active in ACT-UP and other AIDS advocacy groups. Memorial includes performances by NY singer & longtime friend, Baby Jane Dexter, film clips of Vito & scenes from his favorite Hollywood films. Friends & fans are welcome. 11 am, free. Info: Frameline 861-5245.
**Holiday Sale at Sharon Art Studio:** 11 am-5 pm. Ceramics, glass, jewelry & more, high-quality student work at very reasonable prices. In Sharon Bldg, next to carousel & children's playground, nr lawn bowling & tennis courts in Golden Gate Park, SF. Info: 753-7006.
**Oakland Glass Artists** Studio Show & Sale—see 12/1 listing for details.
**Strawberry Canyon Herb Walk:** part of an ongoing series of Walks designed to teach participants to identify & use the many edible & medicinal plants that grow wild in the Bay Area; an intro to wildcrafting, plant lore, botanical pharmacology, & recipes for teas & wild foods. Learn the basics of holistic healing, with an emaphasis on understanding the medicinal actions of plants thru taste & smell, as well as thru traditional & clinical indications. Today's Walk features beautiful & diverse flora typical of the western states coastal range. Meet at noon at Strawberry Canyon Fire Trail Head, below the UC Berkeley Botanical Gardens on Centennial Drive, Berkeley, $5-11 SL. For directions/info: Adam Seller 845-4028. Walk repeats on 12/22 at 10:30 am and 12/23 at noon. Rain cancels.
**Pueblo to People** 6th Annual Latin American Holiday Crafts Fair—see 12/1 listing for details.
**The Victorian Holiday Faire** at First Unitarian Church, see 12/1 listing for details.
**4th Annual ClaireLight Holiday** Party! All-day celebration with lots of refreshments, door prizes & fun—everyone welcome. Also ten percent discount on all in-stock books... Noon-5 pm. ClaireLight Women's Books, 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.
**Electrical Applications:** wkshop part of QSM's series of educational & artistic programs for the s/m community. S/M veteran Jim Bruce demonstrates how to safely combine electricity with other forms of s/m play. Men & women of all sexual orientations are welcome. Over 21 only. Doors open at noon, wkshop 12:30-3 pm. $12 at door. Upstairs at 1354 Harrison St at 9th, SF. Info: QSM 428-1321.

## 3 ■ MONDAY

**Holiday Social Mixer** for HIV+/PWA persons & their friends, spons by Soul Ventures—today's the deadline to reserve your tix—see 12/8 listing for details.
**AIDS/HIV Nightline: Volunteers** needed for telephone service that provides nighttime emotional support, info & referrals to people concerned about AIDS. People with all levels of experience are welcome! Training provided. Contact David Paisley at SF Suicide Prevention, 752-4866 for info. Training starts soon.
**Women Writers** wkshop for lesbians over 50, spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). Meets today & 12/10 & 17; 6-8 pm at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Info: 626-7000.
**6th Annual Bay Area Talent** Celebration & Cast Party: eve of revelry bringing together all aspects of the Bay Area entertainment industry, presented by Northern California's performing artists. Emcee comic Marga Gomez. Music by *The Stupeds* featuring Raoul Brody & Dor Loco and his *Rockin Jalapeno Band*. Entertainers include Wayne Doba, Connie Champagne, Academy of the Sword, Deb & Mike, Public Nuisance, Erotic Justice, Hank Hyena, Karin Babbitt & more. Cocktail reception 6:30-7:30 pm. $21 tix includes complimentary champagne, hors d'oeuvres, show & dancing. Group discounts available. At the Townsend Night Club, 177 Townsend St, SF. Tix/info: 931-0529.
***Global Dumping Ground:*** *The Int'l Traffic in Hazardous Waste*—editors Diana Hembree & David Kaplan discuss their newly-published book. Discussion followed by reception at A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books, Opera Plaza, 601 Van Ness Ave, SF. 7-9 pm. Info: 441-6670.
**Gay Men's Sketch/Castro:** Drop-in drawing group for all skill levels. Features classical nude modeling by gay male model. 7-10 pm, $12. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Room 205. Info: 621-6294.
**Gay Comedy Open Mike** at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Emcee Karen Williams. 8:30 pm, $4. Peformer sign-up by phone, by 7:30 pm. Info: 861-7933.
**Bay Area Theatresports** (BATS) "Screwball Comedy" Night: an eve of full-length, fast-paced romantic comedy—snappy patter, colorful characters, wacky plot twists—all completely improvised. Directed by Reed Kirk Rahlmann. 8 pm, $7-10. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info/res: 824-8220.
***Two Nice Girls*** from Austin, in concert at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF. 8 pm, $10. Info: 885-0750.
**"Body & Soul"**—Michelle Murlin Gardner of *Cats* and *Les Miserables* presents a night of sizzling 30's & 40's music at the Plush Room, 940 Sutter St, SF, with musical director Peter Maleitzke. For into/tix call 885-2800.
**First-time Group for Lesbian** Survivors of Incest/Childhood Molestation. 16-wk group meets Mondays, 1:30-3 pm. SL fee. Members must be in individual therapy simultaneously. Info: Alesia Kunz at Operation Concern, 626-7000.
**Break the Silence! World AIDS** Day Demo: Focus on Women & AIDS. March & Rally begins 10 am at the Social Security Administration, 10 UN Plaza, SF. Spons by Women & AIDS Action Alliance, ACT UP SF, ACT Up Golden Gate, Lesbians & Gays Against Imperialism, Revolting Lesbians, LABIA, & others. Info: 668-1252.
**Diagonally Speaking**: alternative lifestyle programming (y'know, gay, lesbian, & bisexual) in San Jose—Mondays, noon-12:30 pm on 90.7 FM, KSJS.

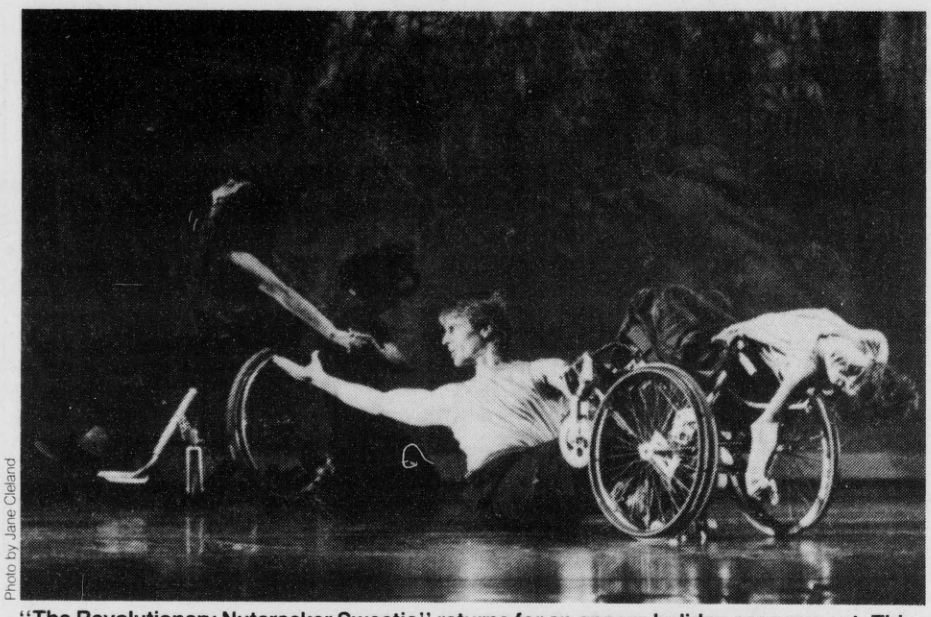


Photo by Jane Cleland

**"The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie" returns for an encore holiday engagement. This year's show features "Axis Dance Troupe" (pictured), among many other performers. Check December 14 for info.**

## 4 ■ TUESDAY

**Int'l AIDS Day Local Action** by ACT-UP Eastbay & the Oakland Homeless Union. Part of a national "Week of Outrage" protesting the plight of women, children & homeless people with AIDS. Demands: $1,000,000 for housing programs now, declaration of an AIDS health emergency, funding of free, voluntary drug treatment, fight racism & sexism in clinical drug trials & health care. Assemble 5 pm at the Alameda County Bldg, 1221 Oak St, Oakland; march at 5:30 pm to the Oakland City Council meeting at Garden Center (not far from Fairyland) at Lake Merritt, Oakl. For info call 420-8864.
**Aikido Morning Classes**: Work individually & with partners to explore & develop your abilities to experience & express yourself skillfully; remain calm, open & steady in the midst of conflict, and move fluidly. Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7-8:30 am at James Howell Studio, 66 1/2 Sanchez St at 14th, SF. $5/class. All welcome! Info: Cress Forester 826-2135.
**"What Is Love?**—A Dialogue," with Rev Edmond Boles, co-founder of the Church of Amron & a veteran of over 35 years in the field of metaphysics. Amron Metaphysical Ctr, 2254 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 775-0227. Free.
**"Basic Tax & Record**keeping Information for Self-Employed People," two-eve seminar spons by Options Institute & taught by tax practitioner Jan Zobel. Today & tmw, 7-9:30 pm, SF location. $60. Info: 821-1015.
**SF Green Party** of California Organizing Committee holds a public meeting tonight at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St btwn Valencia & Guerrero, SF. Women & reps from women's organizations are invited to attend to hear about the Green Party & express views on women's issues & perspectives. The Green Party represents peace, ecology & social justice concerns, and is inspired by Green movements & parties worldwide. Info: 255-2940.
**Rev Troy Perry**, founder of the Metropolitan Community Church, reads from & signs copies of his autobiography. *Don't Be Afraid Anymore*. 7:30 pm at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.
**Harvey Stein & Philip Klasky:** "Back from the USSR". Stein & Klasky presents a multimedia performance & reading inspired by their recent trips to Eastern Europe & the Soviet Union. Klasky performs a new piece, "Circus Berlin"; Stein performs monologues, plays steel-drum songs, & shows videos of his travel s & performances in Poland, Moscow & Leningrad. 8 pm, $4. Intersec tion for the Arts, 446 Valencia St, SF. Info: 626-ARTS.
**Miss Manners at Cody's Books:** Etiquette expert Judith Martin discusses her *Miss Manners' Guide for the Turn-of-the-Millenium*, the one saving grace in this day and age of advanced rudeness. If you think etiquette problems are only encountered by snobs & brides-to-be waving seating charts, come to tonight's reading & find out about how to survive the 90s and the decades beyond, perfectly & politely. 8 pm, 2454 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 845-7852.
**Author Adam Kufeld** presents his new book of photos, *El Salvador*, a documentary of life in the cities, in Honduran refugee camps, and in an FMLN guerrilla camp in El Savlador. 8 pm, free. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.
**Healing the Inner Child:** part of an ongoing series of weekly classes for women. Use visualization & guided meditation to identify your child aspect & provide her with love & healing. 8-10 pm, $15-20 SL. Beginners welcome. Info/res: Pati McDermott, psychic counselor & hypnotherapist, 625-6355.
**Women's Aikido School of SF:** Practice this beautiful martial art to heal self & society. Learn mind-body unification, self-defense skills, centering, grounding. Gain friends & community. Learn to use power without violence. Advanced & beginners classes. Info/reg: Jamie Zimron, Sensei, 285-2388. 670 South Van Ness Ave at 18th St, SF. Tues, Wed & Thurs thru month.
**Complimentary Spinal Exam** & Blood Pressure Check at Silverman Chiropractic, 1242 Market St btwn 8th & 9th. Info/res: Dr Robin Silverman at 252-0443 or Dr Gordon Yee at 751-2345. Also offered on 12/11 & 18th.
***At the Crossroads: Jews*** *of Eastern Europe Today*: acclaimed documentary film about contemporary Jewish life in Polanad, Hungary & Czechoslovakia. Screens at 11 pm in the Barbary Coast Room of the Student Union, SF State University campus, 1600 Holloway Ave at 19th, SF. Info: SF Hillel 333-4922.

## 5 ■ WEDNESDAY

**Best of the Festival** series at the Castro Theatre. Screenings of the best & most popular films from the SF Int'l Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, presented by Frameline. This month see *Friends Forever* (showtimes 1, 5 & 9 pm) and *Novembermoon*(showtimes 2:55 & 7 pm) on 12/5, and *Westler—East of the Wall* (showtimes 3:05 & 7:10 pm) and *Coming Out* (showtimes 1, 5 & 9 m) on 12/19. Tix & other info: Frameline 861-5245.
**Discovery: A Men's Discussion** Group spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). 2:15 pm at 333 Turk St, SF, 2nd floor. Today's topic: "Taking Care of Each Other". Group also meets 12/12 ("Homophobia Among Ourselves") and 12/19 (HOliday Celebration, with refreshments & gifts). Facilitated by George Birimisa. Info: 626-7000.
**Musical Echoes of Java:** a performance of traditional music for Javenese Gamelan by the Heavenly Chimes Gavelan Ensemble. 7 pm, free. Adrian Gruhn Court, Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park, SF. Info: 751-2500.
**At ClaireLight Women's Books:** Nona Caspers reads from her funny & insightful new book, *Voyages Out 2: Lesbian Short Fiction*. 7 pm, free. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.
**Advent Vespers by Candlelight** at MCC-SF: meditative services of prayer, reflection & special music, followed by coffee hour. Tonight & 12/12, 19 & 26 at Metropolitan Community Church of SF, 150 Castro St btwn 18th & 19th, SF. Info: 863-4434.
**SF Hiking Club** Monthly Mtg/Social: 7:30 pm potluck dinner, bring a dish sufficient to share with 3 or 4 others. Eureka Valley Rec Ctr, Collingwood nr 18th St, behind Cala Market (one block from Castro St), SF.
**Racism in the Queer Community:** An open forum to constructively address issues & misconceptions about people of color in the queer community. Spons by Queer Nation. 7:30 pm. All welcome. Come with an open mind. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St btwn Valencia & Guerrero, SF. Info: 985-7141.
**Our Search for Spiritual Meaning:** first of a planned series of participant-focused discussions on spirituality within a gay/lesbian context. Spons by the Gay & Lesbian Caucus of First Unitarian Church of SF. 7:30 pm, 1157 Franklin St, SF.
**Pianist/composer Geri Allen** in concert at Koncepts Cultural Gallery, 480 3rd St, off Broadway, Oakland. Allen is a keyboardist/composer steeped in the tradition of African-American music. 8 pm, $10. Info: 644-1084.
**Comedy at El Rio** with Danny Williams, Monica Grant, Scott Capurro & Lisa Geduldig. 9 pm, $5. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.
**"Outlook"** lesbian/gay video show airs 9 pm tonight & 12/19 on PCTV Cable Network (Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville, Piedmont, El Cerrito, Richmond, Albany, San Pablo, Pinole & Hercules). Tonight's program features UCSF Professor Harold Cottram discussing his study of HIV in Black men. 12/19 programs features highlights from last year's shows, and a look ahead to the future.
**Birthday & Retire the Debt Party** for Tom Ammiano, top vote getter in the recent SF School Board elections. $25 sliding scale at Olive Oil's, Pier 50 in the China Basin, SF. For details/time call 495-3099.
**Women's Aikido School** of SF—see 12/4 listing.

## 6 ■ THURSDAY

**7th Annual Artists' Auction & Store** at New Langton Arts. Preview tonight, 6-8 pm, live auction begins at 7 pm. No-host bar, hors d'oeuvres & valet parking. 1246 Folsom St btwn 8th & 9th, SF. Info: 626-0272.
**Aikido Morning Class**—see 12/4 listing for details.
**Community Health Talks** program at UCSF continues with "Taking Out the Bah Humbug & Putting Back the Ho! Ho! Ho!" a talk with Merri J Kaas & Laura Deering-Mayclin, clinical nurses at UCSF's Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute. Discuss common feelings & behaviors that make the holidays a difficult time. Laurel Heights Conference Ctr, Chancellor's Room, 3333 California St, SF. Free. Info: 476-3206.
**Well-Made Bondage Videos:** an s/m video night spons by QSM as part of their artistic/educational series of programs for the s/m community. See *Rope That Works* (gay male, 60 min) and *Suspension of Disbelief* (heterosexual, 60 min). Doors open at 7 pm, videos start at 7:30 pm, followed by discussion. $5 at door. Men & women of all sexual orientations are welcome, over 21 only. Upstairs at 1354 Harrison St at 9th, SF. Info: QSM 428-1321.
**Women of Color & Reproductive Freedom:** Planning mtg to organize a community forum on women of color & the fight for reproductive freedom, spons by Bay Area Coalition for Our Reproductive Right (BACORR). Help plan an event that addresses attacks on women of color & their reproductive freedom, & strategies to fight back. People of all colors who are committed to keeping & expanding our reproductive rights are welcome. 7 pm at Unitarian Fellowship, 1606 Bonita nr Cedar, Berkeley. Info: 648-1519.
**Evening Forum:** "The Playground of US Capitalism: Political Economy of the Bay Area in the 80s & 90s". 7:30 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. $3-5. Held as a follow-up to last July's Social Upheaval & the US Left conference, convened by a number of individuals & organizations active in left & progressive politics. Info/res: 863-6968. Childcare by reservation.
**Palo Alto Lesbian Rap** Group meets 7:30-9 pm at MidPeninsula YWCA. Tonight's topic: "The Intolerable Boss: Don't Get Mad Get Smarter", discussion led by Julie. Rap followed by coffee at Ramona's. All women are welcome! Info: 969-1260.
**Lesbian Gathering** meets at Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Ctr, 1332 Commerce Lane, downtown Santa Cruz. Tonight's topic: "Amazing but True: Amazons Tell Your Story". 7:30-9:30 pm. Info: 425-LGCC.
**Kulintang Arts presents "Cycles"**, an installation performance created by Pilipino-American performing ensemble Kulintang Arts, jazz percussionist/composer/author Kenneth Nash, and visual artist Agelio Batle. Combines moving sculpture, installation of dancers, musicians, rocks, sand & sticks with an innovative musical composition of acoustical percussion & digital samples of environmental & natural sounds. Works explores how ancient art forms have survived centuries of natural & human disasters, and, reshaped, can speak to our modern times. 8 pm tonight thru 12/8 at Ft Mason Ctr's Cowell Theater, SF. Tix: $10 Thurs, $12 Fri & Sat. Info/res: 552-3656.
**Big Butt Girls, Hard-Headed Women**: Cultural Odyssey production. Performance-piece based on the lives & times of women who are incarcerated behind bars. Features performer Rhodessa Jones, with direction/musical accompaniment by Idris Ackamoor. Tonight thru 12/8 at The Lab, 1850 Divisadero St at Bush, SF. 8 pm, $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts. Info: 346-4063.
**Author Fritz Hamilton** presents his just-published book, Love, Debra, a novel about a teenage prostitute & her relationship with a hotel night desk clerk. 8 pm, free. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.
***The Edlos***, "the bad boys of a cappella", in concert at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF. 8 pm, $9 & $10. Info: 885-0750.
**Doug Holsclaw's** "Don't Make Me Say Things That Will Hurt You,". Return engagement at Josie's Cabaret of the new one-man play written & performed by Doug Holsclaw and directed by Sabin Epstein. Holsclaw explores ten private moments of a man in hiding. Who is this guy and why won't he stop talking? Is he the last queen on earth, the keeper of the flame, or just terribly anti-social? Plays Thurs-Sun, tonight thru 12/22 at 8 pm, with added 10 pm shows on Friday. Tix $8. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.
**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video show** airs tonight & 12/13, 20 & 27 at 8:30 pm on Mountain View Cable Channel 30.
**Cocktail Party at El Rio** with comic Ngaio Bealum, exotic dancer Michael Hamilton, female impersonator Kitty Glamour & dj Carlos Grant. 9 pm, free. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.
**Women's Aikido School** of SF—see 12/4 listing for details.

## 7 ■ FRIDAY

**Composer Vivian Fine**, whose *Madrigali Spirituali* had its world premiere by the Women's Philharmonic last month, speaks as part of SF Conser-

Photo by Jeff Zeba

**"The Egg Dance"—Gay White and Leigh Evans performance/dance Dec 1 in SF and Dec 7 in the East Bay.**

vatory's "Inside Out: Composers Discuss Their Craft" lecture series. 1 pm, $5. Upstairs lounge, SF Conservatory, SF. Info: 564-8086.

**Fall Dance Concert** presented by SF State University's Dept of Dance. Features the EMBAJE Dance Ensemble. Also works by faculty choreographers including Chitresh Das, who presents a work in *Kathak*, a traditional dance style from Northern India. Also featured: "Od'ditty" a modern dance by Michael T Jones, accompanied by a suite of music by Tom Waites; choreographer/director Alicia Pierce's "Fumilayo/Bring Me Joy", an eclectic jazz work with diasporic African cultural forms rooted in the philosophy & technique of Katherine Dunham; "Bach & Forth at Brandenburg Gate," a modern ballet set to Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No 3 in G, to celebrate the reunification of Germany; and a modern dance piece by Lar Roberson. 1 & 8 pm tonight, 8 pm tmw at McKenna Theatre, Creative Arts Bldg, SFSU, 1600 Holloway Ave, SF. Tix $5 gen'l, $3.50 stdnts & srs. Info: 338-2467.

**Women Musicians Open Mike** at Mama Bears: Room for 6 performers, call 428-9684 to reserve your performance time. 7 pm, $3. Women only. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl.

**Comedy Night Benefit** for Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Ctr. Open mike & performances by local & Bay Area comedians at the Galaxy Club, 1535 Commercial Way, Santa Cruz. Folllowed by dancing. 8 pm., SL door donation. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.

**Pioneer** at UC Berkeley: a collaboration between composer Paul Dresher, visual artist/songwriter Terry Allen, and performers Jo Harvey Allen, Rinde Eckert & John Duykers. Uses experimental music/theatre to examine America's pioneer legends & their influence on the national psyche. 8 pm at Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. Tix: $18, $15 & $11. Info: CalPerformances 642-9988.

***SF Bach Choir*** presents two evenings of Elizabethan Christmas music, tonight & tmw at 8 pm at St Palulus Church, Gough & Eddy Sts, SF. Program includes *Missa Puer Natus* by Thomas Tallis, plus Renaissance & early Baroque music by Gibbons, Byrd, Purcell & Blow. Audience invited to a Wassail Bowl & entertainment at intermission. Tix: $12 gen'l, $7 stdnts & srs in advance, $15 gen'l & $10 stdnts & srs at door. Info: 931-4529.

**SF World Drum Festival**: today & tmw at the Palace of Fine Arts Theater, SF. See premiere of "Skin Talk: An Ancestral Ballet of Women", a commissioned piece for women percussionists. Conceived & directed by Gladys "Bobi" Cespedes & Carolyn Brandy, work combines theater, music & dance. Program also features an explosion of Afro-Latin rhythms with *Tumbao*. Other performers tonight include SDOUAE, the Children's Drum Ensemble, The New World Trio with Eddie Marshall, India Cooke & Kash Killion, and master drummer Kimati Dinizulu. 12/8 program features *The Mary Ellen Donald Middle Eastern Percussion Ensemble;* EW Wainwright Jr's *African Roots of Jazz* and *Spirit of Polynesia*. 8 pm, call City Box Office for tix info, 392-4400. For gen'l info regarding the Festival call City Celebration, 474-3914.

**Big Butt Girls, Hard-Headed Women** at The Lab—see 12/6 listing for details.

**Italian-American Women**: Our Immigrant Past—a reading by Italian-American women writers at Berkeley Public Library Claremont Branch, 2940 Benvenue at Ashby. Janet Capone & Denise Leto, editors of a special issue of *Sinister Wisdom* focusing on Italian-American women, join contributors Vincenza Baldino and Celine-Marie Pascale in a reading of their work. 8 pm, free. Wheelchair Accessible. Spons by Friends of the Library. Info: 644-6880.

**Christmas Around the World:** Schola Cantorum concert celebrates the season with holiday music from Belgium, Britain, Argentina, France, Spain & America. 8 pm at Flint Center, Cupertino. Tix: $12 gen'l, $10 srs & stdnts, $5 kids under 12. Info: 392-SHOW.

**Judith Kate Friedman** in concert at Artemis Cafe: night of vibrant vocals, new songs. 8 pm, $5-8 SL. 1199 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-0232.

**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," —Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's, see 12/6.

**The Egg Dance** at Live Oak Theater, see 12/1 listing for details.

**Romanovsky & Phillips** in concert with Judy Fjell & Crystal Reeves: Come celebrate the holidays with laughter & love songs. 8:30 pm, $9 at Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison St, Berkeley. Concert repeats in SF on 12/9 at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF—8 pm, $12, call 885-0750 for tix.

**Kulintang Arts' "Cycles"** at Ft Mason—see 12/6 listing for details.

**Healing into Life & Death:** register early for this weekend investigation of conscious living and conscious dying, with Stephen and Ondrea Levine (1/19-20). It's an opportunity to gently explore common grief, sense of separation, and one's capacity for great healing; using practical insight, guided meditation & discussion. $105/person. Free childcare. 12 CEU's available for nurses. Info/reg: The ACCESS Group 883-6111. Tix also available thru BASS 762-2277.

**Cross-Country Skiing** at Tahoe-Donner or Royal Gorge: 12/7-9, 21-23 & 28-30. Stay in a 2-bedroom house, share cleaning & a good time. Cost: $40 per person for 2 nights, includes dinner. Info/res: May 664-7317.

**Friday Night Live** at Amelia's: Friday nights in December, an eve of live rock 'n' roll & rhythm & blues, plus comedy, live performances. 9 pm-1 am, $5. A social club alternative. 647 Valencia St, SF. Info: Ellen 552-5407.

**Club Pier 50** December Dance Party for Women: 9 pm, $6. Dj dancing. 295 China Basin Way, SF. Club Pier 50 is a once-a-month dance club for women. Lots of free, safe parking available. Info; 495-3099. See you there!

# 8 ■ SATURDAY

**Cartoonist Diane Noomin** appears as part of Cartoon Art Museum's monthly series of guest cartoonists. Noomin, whose main cartoon character is DiDi Glitz, was one of the original artists featured in *Wimmin's Comix* established in 1972, and is a contributor to many other books & magazines including *Choices; Strip AIDS USA; Titters; Twisted Sisters Comics; Weirdo; True Glitz* and others. 1-4 pm at 665 3rd St at Townsend, SF. Info: 546-3922. Admission fee includes entry to the ongoing "A Tribute to the Art of Fantasia" exhibit.

**Innovative Housing**: an informational mtg for older lesbians & gays who rent. Discuss setting up new households, getting assistance finding housemates, & more. Spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). Info/location: Pat 626-7000.

**"Marilyn's Magic Glasses"**, a staged reading of Thomas Mournian's new play about a s/he whose voice is stolen, and her adventures with some magic glasses. Directed by Dillon Russell. An Orphans Go For A Walk Theater Co production. Today & tmw at 2 pm at Studio Rhino, 2926 16th St, SF. $5 suggested donation. Info: 255-0642.

**Free Chamber Music Concert**: bassoonist Phillip Letcher and a group of South Bay music colleagues perform works by Vivaldi, Telemann & Prokofiev at Berkeley Public Library South Branch, 1901 Russell at Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley. Wheelchair Accessible. 2 pm. Info: 644-6860.

**Take Back the Night** March & Rally: Night of solidarity with women around the world, commemoration of the Montreal massacre. 5 pm rally includes speakers: poet/essayist/activist June Jordan; Mona Tamimi of the Union of Palestinian Women Assoc; activist/teacher/writer Diana Russell. Music by Deidre McCalla. For women & children only. 6 pm march. For childcare & other info call 995-4735. Spons by Take Back the Night Coalition, Berkeley Clearinghouse on Femicide, La Casa de las Madres, Lesbians & Bisexuals in Action (LABIA), Open Forum, Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, San Mateo Battered Women's Services & Women Against Imperialism.

**Gay Fathers Holiday Party** Christmas & Hannukkah celebration for dads, their friends & kids—see Parents & Kidsbox for details!

**18th Annual Bill of Rights Day** Celebration spons by the ACLU of Northern Calif. Keynote address delivered by noted civil rights attorney Derrick Bell, who earlier this year voluntarily resigned his post at Harvard Law School to protest Harvard's refusal to grant tenure to a Black woman law professor. The prestigious Earl Warren Civil Liberties Award will be presented to lesbian rights pioneers Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon, the Lola Hanzel Courageous Advocacy Award will be awarded posthumously to ACLU-NC gay rights activist Douglas Warner. Entertainment by singer Ronnie Gilbert, accompanied by Libby McLaren; and Ian Shoales of Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre. Tix: $15 gen'l, $8 low-income, srs & stdnts. Seating limited, adv purchase suggested. Westin St Francisco Hotel, SF. Wheelchair Accessible (use Post St entrance), SIGN interpretation. Proceeds benefit the legal program of the ACLU Foundation of Northern California. Info: 621-2493.

**Pacific Friends Christmas Dinner**/Dance: Today is the deadline for reservations! See 12/15 for details.

**Holiday Mixer** spons by Soul Ventures, a social networking/dating service serving the Bay Area's HIV+/PWA community. An alcohol-free evening of fine food & light entertainment with other HIV+/PWA people & their friends. Plus special holiday door prizes! 6:30-9:30 pm, $15 adv, $20 at door. Cafe San Marcos, 2367 Market St btwn Castro & Noe, SF. RSVP required by 12/3. Info: 543-2520.

**Women's Sing-A-Long**—bring your voice, friends & guitar for an evening of singing your favorite songs—Berkeley location, all women are welcome! Info/directions: Birch 841-6032.

**Gay & Lesbian Vegetarians** Holiday Potluck: 7-9 pm, SF location. $1 donation requested to help defray costs. Info/location: Gary 626-1351. Come celebrate!

**Karen Brodine Book** Launching Celebration: poetry lovers & friends of the late Bay Area feminist wrtier Karen Brodine are invited to celebrate the publication of her posthumously-released fourth book, *Woman Sitting at the Machine, Thinking*, produced by Red Letter Press. Video showing of Brodine reading some of the book's poetry will be shown. Public welcome! 8 pm program includes hors d'oeuvers & dessert buffet ($6.50). Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia at 16th, SF. For childcare & other info call 864-1278.

**Gay Men's Relationship** Mixer: Ready for a relationship with another man? At-


ACLU Foundation of Northern California

1990 BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

CELEBRATION

**Sunday December 9 at 5:00 pm**
**Refreshments & No-Host Bar at 4:00 pm**
**Westin St. Francis Hotel,**
**Grand Ballroom,**
**Union Square, 335 Powell Street**
**San Francisco, California**

**18th Annual Presentation of the**
**Earl Warren Civil Liberties Award**
**to**

**Phyllis Lyon & Del Martin**
**Lesbian Rights Pioneers**

**Keynote Speaker:**
**Professor Derrick Bell**
**Harvard Law School**
**Educator & Civil Rights Leader**

**Songs by**
**Ronnie Gilbert**

**Political Satire by**
**Ian Shoales**
**Member, Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre troupe**

**Tickets $15.00; students, seniors, low-income: $8.00.**
**Call 415.621.2493 or fill in the coupon below.**

Enclosed is my payment of $_____ for _____ tickets ($15 or $8 each)

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to ACLU Foundation of Northern California.
Mail to: Bill of Rights Day Celebration; ACLU-NC; 1663 Mission, Suite 460; San Francisco, CA 94103.
Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

SERVICES AUCTION,

*PLUS MUCH MORE!*

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ACHÉ

Sunday, December 9, 1990
2pm 'til everything's gone $3.00
The Women's Building
3543 18th St., SF

- Karen Williams, emcee & auctioneer
- Gwen Avery
- Melanie Demore
- Debra Floyd
- and many more!

**Need a massage? legal help? music for a candle light dinner?**

Bet you're looking for that perfect present for that special person in your life who has everything. Help support Aché and shop without having to wait in those lines, avoid all the holiday traffic, eat, drink, listen to some of the Bay Area's finest preformers, all just around the corner at the Women's Building.

*In Memoriam*

**Gloria Wilson**

**March 22, 1922—October 27, 1990**

*Lover of life, lesbian survivor,*
*creative spirit;*
*Healer, mother, friend...*
*She glows for us still*

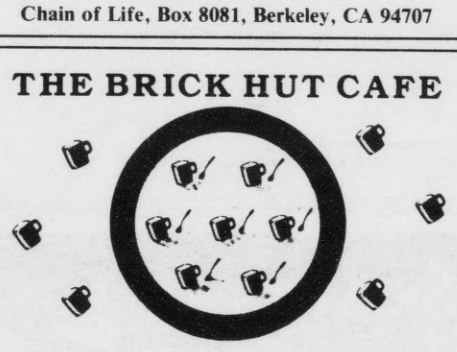
**Memorial Service:**
**2:00 p.m., December 9, 1990**
**For information, call 528-3465**

**Lesbian and Gay Adoptees (& friends)...**

LINK UP WITH
**CHAIN OF LIFE**
an adoption reform newsletter

for more info, send SASE to:
**Chain of Life, Box 8081, Berkeley, CA 94707**

**THE BRICK HUT CAFE**



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tend tonight's mixer—a comfortable way to meet other quality men thru small group discussions & personal sharing. Social hour follows. Doors open at 7:15 pm, mixer begins at 7:30—$5. MCC-SF, Social Hall, 150 Eureka St (3 blocks west of Castro, btwn 18th & 19th), SF. Info: Partners Institute 343-8541.

**Big Butt Girls** at The Lab—final performance! See 12/6 listing for details.

**Kulintang Arts' "Cycles"** at Ft Mason Ctr, see 12/6 listing for details.

**Bern Dunleavy & Jo Harrison** bring down the house at Artemis Cafe with powerful vocals, originals. Also poetry & Irish folk songs. 8 pm, $4-6 SL. 1199 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-0232.

**Winter Concert** of Holiday Music with Golden Gate Men's Chorus of SF and the Sacramento Men's Chorus. 8 pm tonight, 3 pm 12/9. Tix: $10 adv, $12 at door, $6 stdnts & srs. Trinity Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush St at Gough, SF. Info: Chuck 584-9805.

**Stories About Stories:** an evening of traditional stories, original stories & stories about the telling of stories, with A Travelling Jewish Theatre founding member Corey Fischer. 8 pm at the Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin St at Geary, SF. Tix: $10 adv, $12 at door, $8 srs/stdnts/low-income. Info/res: 861-4880.

**At Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore/** Coffeehouse: singer Tret Fure in concert—a night of songs full of humor, emotion & eroticism. $7-9 SL, 8:30 pm. 175 Stockton Ave, San Jose. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: (408) 293-9372.

**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," —Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's, see 12/6.

**Winter Concert** with Golden Gate Men's Chorus of SF and the Sacramento Men's Chorus. 9th annual concert of holiday music in the classical choral tradition. Tonight at 8 pm, tmw at 3 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush St at Gough, SF. Tix: $12 at door, $10 adv, $6 stdnts & srs. Tix available at Headlines. Info: Chuck 584-9805.

***Turtle Island String Quartet***: toe-tapping, finger-snapping string quartet perform original compositions & arrangements of jazz standards from Miles Davis & Dizzy Gillepsie to material made popular by Eric Clapton. Don't miss them in concert tonight at Angelico Hall, Dominican College, San Rafael. 8 pm, $16 & $12. Info: Marin Center Box Office 472-3500.

**Teresa Chandler Concert** at Mama Bears: Don't miss this dynamite performer—a super-belter, super-torcher! 8 pm, $6-8. Women only 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: 428-9684.

**Tuck & Patti,** "Love Warriors" at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF. Two shows: 8 & 10:30 pm, $15. Info: 885-0750.

**Proletarian Pervert Party**: Come to a lesbian/gay dance benefitting the Nicaragua AIDS Fund & the Chinandega Women's Construction Project. 8 pm-midnight, $5 (no one turned away for lack of funds). Also free raffle—you might win something! 766 Valencia St, SF. Childcare, wheelchair accessible. Info: 558-8671.

***SF Bach Choir*** **Elizabethan Christmas** music concert, see 12/7 listing for details.

**Women's Voices/Earth Songs:** a concert with Alice Di Micele & Betsy Rose. 8 pm, $7-10 SL. Berkeley Unitarian Fellowship Hall, corner of Cedar & Bonita, Berkeley.

**Other Cinema at ATA** (Artists Television Access) features *Break the Silence*, SF-based artist Susan Greene's compelling chronicle of four Jewish women's mural project in the West Bank. Also Elia Sulieman & Jayce Salloum's 40-min *Introduction to the End of An Argument: Speaking for Oneself*, an oddly wry narrative constructed thru a kinetic collage of Arab stereotypes in the US mass media, from Ted Koppel to children's cartoons. 8:30 pm, $5. 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.

**The Egg Dance** at Live Oak Theater—final performance! See 12/1 listing for details.

**Exploring the Heart of Healing in AIDS:**register early for this upcoming event with Ram Dass & Stephen Levine. An exploration of our healing into life within the context of our growing experience with AIDS. Premise of the gathering is that the heart of healing lies in work on oneself. People with AIDS, caregivers & loved ones are welcome. $35/person. For tix/info: The ACCESS Group 883-6111. Tix also available thru BASS 762-2277.

**Self-Defense Class for Women**: spons by UCSF's Rape Prevention Education Program. 9 am-4 pm, $50. Class limited to 20 women. UCSF Millberry Union Fitness Ctr, Studio 2, 500 Parnassus, SF. Focus is on street-wise personal safety, defense & escape methods. Learn both self-assertiveness skills & physical self-protection techniques in a safe & supportive environment. Participants should wear loose & comfortable clothing. Led by Trish Brinkman. For info/pre-reg: 476-5222.

**The Music Business Seminar**: an all-day conference for aspiring musicians, spons by Calif Lawyers for the Arts. Gain practical skills, in-depth insight into achieving success in the music industry. Panel & wkshop speakers are musicians, mangaers, producers & other successful music professonals. Topics include copyright & publishing, role of mangers & agents, record deal negotiations, exposing your music, and more. 9 am-5 pm at Ft Mason Ctr, SF. 455. Info: Calif Lawyers for the Arts 775-7200.

**Christmas in Sausalito Crystal Fair:** today & tmw at Idesst Hall, 511 Caledonia St (corner of Napa), Sausalito. $4 admission. Metaphysical crystal merchants, artisans & jewelers from throughout northern Calif. 10 am-6 pm. Info: 383-7837.

**Ft Mason Artists** Annual Holiday Show & Sale: 10 am-6 pm today & tmw at Ft Mason Art Ctr, SF. 2-day exhibit & sale includes painting, photography, prints, ceramics, stained glass, drawing, weaving, sculpture & hand-loomed tapestry. Bldg B, Ft Mason, Laguna & Marina Blvds, SF. Free admission, free parking.

**"Basic Tax & Record**keeping Information for Self-Employed People," a one-day seminar taught by tax practitioner Jan Zobel, EA. At De Anza Community College in Cupertino. $60. Info: (408) 864-8817.

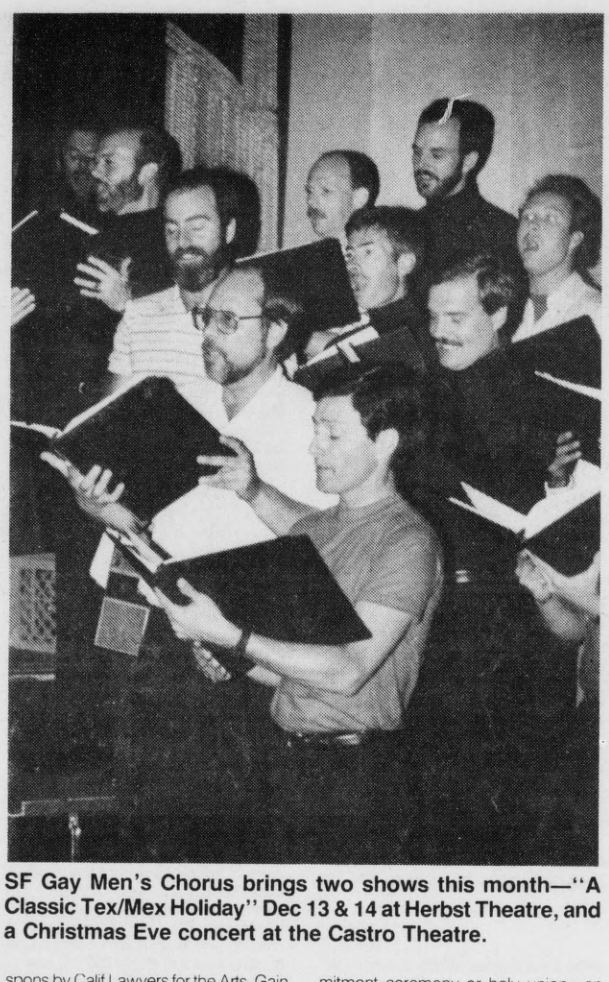
**Annual Holiday Plant Sale** spons by Friends of the Botanical Garden at UC Berkeley. Items include ferns, cacti, succulents, bulbs, epiphytic orchids & cymbidiums. All plants grown from horticultural sources or seeds collected in the wild. Other choice gifts include books of gardening & natural history. Bring a box for safe transport of plants. 10 am-3 pm, all proceeds benefit the Botanical Garden. Centennial Drive in Strawberry Canyon, just above the Berkeley campus. Info: 642-3343.

**Berkeley Potters Guild** Christmas Show & Sale: see 12/1 listing for details.

**Dance as a Self-Healing Art:** wkshop taught by Anna Halprin, PhD, with Jamie McHugh, MA. Intro to the PsychoKinetic Visualization Process, an approach to health and healing rooted in the language of body-movement. Integrates the physical body with emotions & mental imagery thru movement. 10 am-5 pm, $35-80 SL fee, some scholarships available. Nursing CE credits available. First Congregational Church, Channing Way at Dana, Berkeley. Info: 461-9479.

**The Santa Lucia Yule Mart** & Craft Fair offers high-quality handmade gifts, toys, baked goods, wreaths & cards in a traditional village festival setting, with musicians, storyteller, and special kids activities. 10 am-6 pm at Old First Presbyterian Church, corner of Sacramento & Van Ness Ave, SF. Free admission. Spons by St Michael Family School at Raphael House. Info: 474-4275.

**Creating Our Own Ceremonies** of Committment: Tired of the heterosexual models for relationships? Want to have fun developing your own models? This wkshop is for lesbian & gay male couples thinking of entering into a commitment ceremony or holy union—an opportunity to look over newly developed resources, generate ideas for your own ritual, & talk with other couples who have already created such rituals for themselves. 10 am-1 pm at 6555 Geary Blvd. Spons by Voice & Vision: Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministry.



**SF Gay Men's Chorus brings two shows this month—"A Classic Tex/Mex Holiday" Dec 13 & 14 at Herbst Theatre, and a Christmas Eve concert at the Castro Theatre.**

**7 Steps for Healing:** A healing model for adults recovering from childhood abuse. Wkshop for clinicians—10 am-5 pm, $70. Eastbay location. Info/res: Rachel Bat Or, MA, MFCC, 428-0361.

**Women's Bldg Arts & Crafts Fair:** 12/8-9, 15-16, 10 am-6 pm. 12th annual fair, the largest juried women's crafts fair in the country. Showcases over 150 women artists & craftswomen, plus many popular entertainers representing the racial, cultural & ethnic diversity of the Bay Area. Entertainers include: Judy Fjell & Crystal Reeves, Faith Winthrop, Disciples of Prayer, Danny Williams, Faye Carol & Kito Gamble, Jessica Williams, Luisah Teish, Sara Felder, Karen Williams, Phavia Kujichagulia & Netori with One World Taiko, Faith Winthrop & Gus Gustavson, Sharon Page-Ritchie, Happy/LA Hyder, Susu Pampanin, Sylvia Castellanos, Sara Felder, Danny Williams, Karen Ripley & Karen Williams. Crafts & artwork on sale include jewelry, fiber arts, sculpture, ceramics, woodwork, mixed media, fine arts, children's items, photography & instruments. Also exhibit by The Mein Emrodiery Project of the Women's Refugee Program & wall and wall hangings by Mothers in Action artisans. Plus bodywork, psychic arts & informational booths, and free, on-site childcare with entertainment. Lots of ethnic food on sale. Herbst Pavilion & Cowell Theater, Pier 2, Ft Mason Ctr, SF. Tix: $4.50-10 SL fee (includes entertainment), free for kids under 12 and seniors 65 & over. Free parking at Crissy Field, with shuttle to Ft Mason. Shuttle for Mission residents will leave at scheduled times from the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF and at the 16th Street BART station for Eastbay residents. Info: 431-1180. The fair is a major fundraising event for the Women's Building.

**Rock at El Rio** with *Pieces of Lisa, Galaxy Chamber & Deli Creeps*. 10 pm, $5. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

**Gay Comedy Night** at Josie's Cabaret with emcee Mario Mondelli & comics Danny Williams, Maureen Brownsey & Dan Morgan. 10 pm, $8. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

**Plum City Players Children's Program** at La Pena, see Parents & Kidsbox for details.

**SF Opera Piano Sale:** annual backstage tradition at the SF War Memorial Opera House. A one-day chance for music lovers, opera buffs & bargain hunters to play & purchase pianos used by this season's opera stars—Leona Mitchell, Kiri Te Kanawa, Marilyn Horne, Hakan Hagegard, Frederica von Stade & others. 11 am-5 pm. To reserve a piano in advance, or for further info call R Kassman Piano 626-8444.

**Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay** Community Ctr Holiday Crafts Fair & Afternoon Cafe: noon-8 pm at 303 Walnut St, Santa Cruz. Great way to socialize & buy gifts for friends & loved ones. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.

**Piercing Sculpture Celebration**/Competition: spons by QSM as part of their artistic/educational series of programs for the s/m community. Several experienced s/m practitioners create bondage pieces that incorporate permanent or temporary piercings. Separate cash prizes awarded by panel of judges & by audience vote. Doors open at noon, events ends at 5:30 pm. $10 at door. Men & women of all sexual orientations welcome, over 21 only. Upstairs at 1354 Harrison at 9th St, SF. Info: QSM 428-1321.

**Presidio Herb Walk:** part of an ongoing series of walks designed to teach participants to identify & use the many edible & medicinal plants that grow wild in the Bay Area. Intro to wildcrafting, plant lore, botanical pharmacology & recipes for teas & wild foods. Learn the basics of holistic healing, with an emphasis on understanding the medicinal actions of plants thru taste & smell, as well as thru traditional & clinical indications. Today's walk features a large variety of plants. Meet at noon at Inspiration Point, Arguello Blvd, SF. $5-11 SL. For info/directions: Adam Seller 845-4028. Rain cancels.

**Printmakers' Gallery** annual Christmas Show: etchings, lithographs, woodcuts & monoprints by members of the Graphic Arts Workshop. Today & tmw, and 12/15-16, noon-4 pm. Studio available for visiting. Artists' reception today, 4-6 pm. 6253 California St, corner of 25th Ave, SF. Info: 386-9524.

**Cheap Art Show** of work by the Gay & Lesbian Artists Alliance. Most pieces are under $100. Artists include Steven Baratz, Dori Friend, Jim Hoffman, Richard Bolingbroke, Jim Leff & George Bailey, among others. Today & tmw at 347 Dolores St at 16th, SF. Noon-10 pm today (opening party 6-10 pm), 10 am-5 pm tmw. Spons by Gay & Lesbian Artists Alliance.

## 9 ■ SUNDAY

**Women's Brunch** with Gay/Lesbian Sierrans. A fun way to meet your sister conservationists & learn about upcoming GLS events. Usually attended by 20-30 women. Homemade dishes appreciated. This month's brunch is in El Cerrito. For info/directions: 237-6070.

**"Marilyn's Magic Glasses"**, a playreading at Theatre Rhino, see 12/8 listing for details.

**Winter Concert** with Golden Gate Men's Chorus & Sacramento Men's Chorus, see 12/8.

***Takacs Quartet*** at UC Berkeley, see 12/2.

**Winter Concert** with Golden Gate Men's Chorus and Sacramento Men's Chorus. See 12/8 listing for details.

**SF Symphony's New & Unusual** Series features the *Donatello String Quartet* in concert at Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento St, SF. 4 pm, $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. Info: 474-1608.

**Round Circle Women's Singing Group** meets at Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Ctr, 1332 Commerce Lane, downtown Santa Cruz. Bring your intermediate singing skills and a favorite song to share. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.

***Crysanthemum Ragtime Band*** in Concert at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint: acclaimed 10-piece ragtime ensemble plays the pop music of the period 1890-1920. 4 pm, $6. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

**Christmas Party at El Rio** with *MVP* and *dj Clay. 5-8 pm, 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.*

**Fiction Writers' Group** Reading at Modern Times Bookstore: members of Molly Giles' Fiction Writers' Group read from their short stories & novels-in-progress. Dan Cutara, Audrey Ferber, Jean Kelley, Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, Blair Moser & Susanne Pari. Reading followed by discussion. 7 pm, free. 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.

**Service of Healing** at MCC-SF: healing around our relationship with our families of origin. Guest preacher: Mrs Mary Griffith of PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) whose gay son Bobby committed suicide. 7 pm. Metropolitan Community Church of SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 863-4434.

**"5 or 6 Hot Minutes"** show of erotic readings at Santa Cruz's Bulkhead Gallery, to benefit the Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Ctr. Readings by Alena Smith, Gabrielle, Mary Wings, Glenn Fitch, Carter Wilson, Francisco X Alarcon, Bill Dunmeyer, Danny Scheie, Sarah-Hope Parmeter, Mr Tim, Peg North, Earl Jackson & Will Russell. Two shows: 7:30 & 10:30 pm, $5 suggested donation. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.

**Pt Reyes Hike** for single lesbians over 50—4 mile hike, call 654-2502 for info.

**Sing-It-Yourself *Messiah:*** SF Conservatory of Music's 12th annual holiday singing extravaganza—glorious holiday tradition held today & tmw at Davies Symphony Hall. Noted choral director Louis Magor conducts the 40-piece Conservatory Orchestra and an audience chorus of over 3,000 in a rousing rendition of Handel's *Messiah.* Soloists include students & alumni of the Conservatory. 2 pm today, 8 pm, tmw. Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave at Grove, SF. Tix: $40, $25 & $15. Info: 431-5400. Proceeds benefit SF Conservatory.

**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," —Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's. 8 pm, $8. See 12/6 listing for details.

**Candlelight Christmas Chorus**: with the SF Symphony Chorus. 180 radiant voices in a joyous & enchanting concert. 8:30 pm tonight & 12/11 at Davies Symphony Hall, SF. Tix $19. Info/res: 431-5400.

**Women's Bldg 12th Annual Arts & Crafts** Fair: annual holiday extravaganza continues at Ft Mason—see 12/8 listing for details. Don't miss!

**Cheap Art Show & Sale**: show of work by the Gay & Lesbian Artists Alliance, see 12/8 listing for details.

**Cliff House Run** with SF Frontrunners. Meet 10 am for a 3 mile run on rolling hills overlooking Land's End & the Golden Gate. Info: Rod 621-2213.

**Ft Mason Artists** Annual Holiday Show & Sale—see 12/8.

**Christmas in Sausalito** Crystal Fair, see 12/8 listing for details.

**Coyote Pt Recreational Area** Hike & Museum Trip with SF Hiking Club. Hike thru the Coyote Point Recreation Area, along the original shoreline of SF Bay; an area that is beginning once again to attract shorebirds & migratory waterfowl. Also see Coyote Point Museum, a wonderful Bay interpretive facility. Easy 6 miles hike, elevation gain negligible, if it rains the museum visit will still occur. Bring lunch & water. Meet 10 am under the big Safeway sign, Market & Dolores, SF. Transportation: 30 miles roundtrip, $3 mileage cost per car, $3 per car recreation area admission—$6 per car total, to be shared among passengers. Info: Jim Binder 839-0984.

**Berkeley Potters Guild** Christmas Show & Sale, see 12/1 listing for details.

**Jewish Bisexual Caucus** meets to continue the spirit of last summer's Bisexual Conference. Come share your stories! 11 am-1 pm. This is the first meeting for our discussion & advocacy group. Info: 337-4566.

**Herbs for Winter Health** Wkshop: 11 am-5 pm in Berkeley. Covers prevention, remedies for common imbalances, and winter cooking. Share recipes, health tips & observations from nature on how to stay healthy during the winter, with emphasis on medicinal plants of the western states. Wkshop includes a light herbal lunch, samples, & medicine we make together. Info: Adam Seller 845-4028.

**Men's Friendship Group** Holiday Potluck Brunch: for gay men over 60, spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). Noon-3 pm. Bring a main dish, finger food, etc. dessert provided. After b:unch program features the continuing saga of "Santa's Dilemma," with the 1990 GLOEing players. Also gift exchange—bring a gift, get a gift. At Francis of Assisi, 145 Guererro St, SF. Info: 626-7000.

**The Printmakers' Gallery** annual Christmas Show—see 12/8.

**Wkend Special for Locals—**"Cruisin' the Castro" walking tours from a historical perspective. Learn about lesbian/gay history in SF, beginning with the Gold Rush! Tour given by longtime resident Trevor Hailey, in a lively, anecdotal fashion. Lasts approx 2 hours. Meet 12:30 pm at Harvey Milk Plaza, SF. Today & 12/19. Call 550-8110 for info/details.

## 10 MONDAY

**AIDS/HIV Nightline** Volunteers Needed—see 12/3 listing for details.

**At ClaireLight Women's Books**: Pat Lang presents a wkshop on how to engage your dreams in 12-Step Recovery. Experience your emotions & needs thru dreamwork, learn to be fiercely protective of your inner child, establish healthy boundaries. 6:45 pm, $4-6 SL. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

**Gay Men's Sketch/Castro:** Drop-in drawing group for all skill levels. Classical nude modeling by waif/artiste Erich Sweet. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Room 205. 7-10 pm, $12. Info: 621-6294.

**GLAA Benefit Bash:** benefit party for the Gay & Lesbian Artists Alliance: fun starts at 7 pm at El Rio, Mission at Valencia, SF. Features GAWK (Gay Artists & Writers Kollective) and Jon Sugar, plus

**"Don't Make Me Say Things That Will Hurt You"—Doug Holsclaw's show this month at Josie's Cabaret, Dec 6-22.**

video work by Nikos Diaman, great music & more. Tix: $6. Raffle entry with each tix, win great prizes!

**Free Candlelight Christmas Concert** & Chocolate Tasting with *Die Mannerstimmen*, a chamber chorus of men's voices conducted by Tim Isbell. Other artists include baritone Frederick Matthews of SF Opera, French horn soloist Phil Richardson & organist Paul Ellison. Choral works include "O Magnum Mysterium" by Jacob Handl; "Two Choruses" by Jan Meyerowitz & "Christmas Cantata" by Daniel Pinkham. Also festive sing-a-long & dessert buffet provided by Bay Area businesses. 7:30 pm, freewill offering taken to benefit the Early Advocacy & Care for HIV (EACH) program & the Bay Area HIV Support & Educational Services, both organizations serve people of color in the Bay Area & recently lost equipment, supplies & mtg office/space to a fire. Persons living with HIV/AIDS, their families, friends, loved ones and support & caregivers are especially encouraged to attend. St Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St at Market, SF.

**Messiah Sing** with Schola Cantorum at Flint Center, Cupertino. 24th year of this popular Messiah sing. $10 general admission seating, Info: 392-SHOW.

**Sing It Yourself *Messiah***—holiday singing extravaganza at Davies Symphony Hall, see 12/9 listing for details.

**BATS "Main Event"**: round 8 of Bay Area Theatresports' comedy improv challenge—two teams come out of their corners battling to be tonight's champion. Winner (determined by the audience) plays a new challenger next week. 8 pm, $7-10. New Peformance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info/res: 824-8220.

**Gay Comedy Open Mike** at Josie's Cabaret. Host Karen Williams at Josie's. 8:30 pm, $4. Performer sign-up by phone at 7:30 pm. 3543 18th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

**Clinical Care of the AIDS Patient:** Hosted by UC-SF, a two-day symposium for practicing physicians, today & tmw at the Hyatt Regency, Embarcadero Ctr, SF. Focus on practical issues in managing the care of patients with HIV infection, and care for patients with all stages of the disease. Topics include: HIV acquisition & transmission, prevention, pathophysiology & treatment. Sessions on specific opportunistic infections offered. Risks to health care workers & the effect of medical education & practice addressed. For more info call 476-5208. To register call 476-5808.

**Diagonally Speaking**: Alternative lifestyle programming in San Jose, see 12/3.

## 11 TUESDAY

**ACT Prologues Series** continues with world premiere production of "Food & Shelter" by Jane Anderson. The play depicts the life of a homeless couple & their 6 year old daughter, who are arrested after a clandestine overnight stay in Disneyland. Prologues is a free program of lively one-hour discussions conducted by noted actors, directors & scholars who introduce each new ACT production. 5:30 pm at the Stage Door Theater, no reservations required. 420 Mason St, SF. Info: ACT 749-2200.

**No Draft, No War! US Out of the Mid-East!** is the topic at tonight's Radical Women Mtg. Features discussion on how we can prevent World War III, building the anti-war movement, connecting the concerns & struggles of women, people of color, lesbians & gays, working people & radicals. Dinner served at 6:45 pm ($5 donation), mtg begins at 7:30 pm. 523A Valencia St nr 16th, SF. Info: 864-1278.

**Aikido Morning Class**—see 12/4.

**"Dealing With Holiday Stress,"** a talk by Jonathan, spiritual counselor, certified hypnotherapist & minister at the Church of Amron. 7 pm, free. Amron Metaphysical Ctr, 2254 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 775-0227.

**Leslie Scalapino & Pasquale** Verdicchio reading at Intersection for the Arts: writer Scalapino is the publisher of O Books, poet Pasquale Verdicchio has published several books of poetry. 8 pm, $4. Info: 626-ARTS.

**SF State University Chorus & Orchestra** present Mozart's great "C-Minor Mass, K. 427" tonight at McKenna Theatre, Creative Arts Bldg, SFSU, 1600 Holloway Ave, SF. Directed by J Karla Lemon, features soprano Helen Dilworth. Tix: $5 gen'l, $2.50 srs & stdnts. Info: 338-2467.

**Identity Integration** & Subpersonalities: part of an ongoing series of weekly classes for women. Take an inward journey to meet & embrace the individual aspects that comprise the personality. Loving & accepting each part creates a whole & well integrated self. 8-10 pm, $15-20 SL. Beginners welcome! Info: Pati McDermott, psychic counselor & hypnotherapist, 652-6355.

**Post-Election Comedy Extravaganza**: An eve of social commentary & comedy to celebrate the Holiday season, with some of the Bay Area's leading satirists, including Will Durst, Tom Ammiano, the Nat'l Theatre of the Deranged, and others. Emcee Kris Welch of KPFA radio. 8:30 pm, $8. On Broadway Theatre, 435 Broadway nr Montgomery, SF. Spons by Media Alliance.

**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.

**Complimentary Spinal Exam** & Blood Pressure Check at Silverman Chiropractic, see 12/4 listing for details.

## 12 WEDNESDAY

**Womantalk** Holiday Party: Discussion group for older lesbians, spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) gives a holiday bash today at 2:15 pm at North of Market Senior Ctr, 333 Turk St, SF. Info: 626-7000.

**Discovery:** A Gay Men's Discussion Group spons by Operation Concern's GLOE, meets today—see 12/5 listing for details.

**Writers' Wkshop for Older** Writers: spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). Wkshop for lesbians & gays over 50, with any level of writing experience. Meets today & 12/26 at 6 pm at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Info: 626-7000.

**Bondage-S/M Artists Nite** spons by Bondage Buddies, a social/info group for gay men interested in bondage. Local artists Leo (Bound & Gagged), Les (15 Assoc), Buzz (Bondage Buddies), Mark I Chester, & Strider (represented by his lover Louis) show slides of their work & talk about the interconnections btwn their lives & their art. 7-10 pm, $10. For South of Market location call 543-3433, for more info call Mark 621-6294.

**Lost Feminists**, a feminist social/discussion group hosts an open house/potluck to celebrate the winter solstice. 7 pm. Newcomers welcome, come celebrate & find out more about us! Info/location: Lisa 647-3444.

**Advent Vespers** by Candlelight: service at Metropolitan Community Church of SF, see 12/5.

**Esmerelda & Mr Morgan in Concert**: Esmerelda, the '80's cult favorite, is back with her "torch chamber blues", accompanied by veteran guitarist Mr (Ron) Morgan. A legendary chanteuse, Esmerelda performs an eclectic mix of covers of songs by others & her own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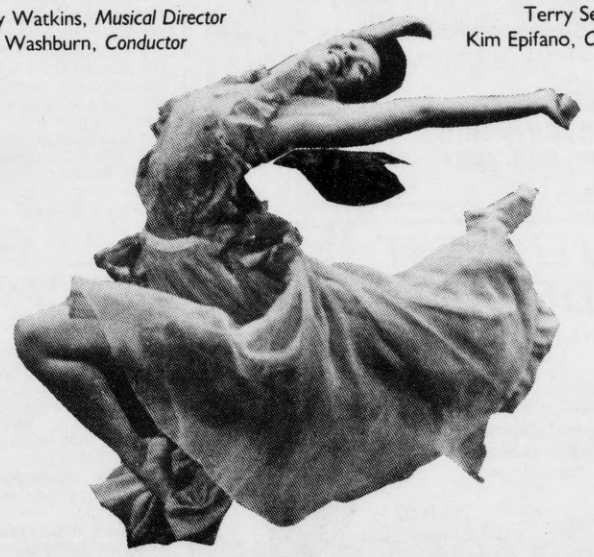
The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie

*A Dance Brigade Production*
*Conceived by*
**Nina Fichter & Krissy Keefer**

Mary Watkins, *Musical Director*
Nan Washburn, *Conductor*

Terry Sendgraff, *Motivity*
Kim Epifano, *Collaborating Artist*



**December 14, 15 & 16 at 8 PM; December 15 at 2 PM**
**Oakland Scottish Rite Theatre, 1547 Lakeside Drive**

Tickets: $13 advance, $15 at the door; $8 children under 12, seniors, disabled
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Photo by Mark Pritchard
**Rachel Kaplan's one-woman show "976-LOVE" premieres this month. Onstage has details.**

compositions. 8 pm, $10. Program repeats on 12/19. At Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.
***Berkeley Symphony Orchestra*** in concert at Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, with Kent Nagano, conductor. Program includes the West Coast premiere of a suite from Messiaen's opera *Saint Francois d'Assise*. 8 pm. Tix $25, $18 & $12. Info/res: CalPerformances 642-9988.
**Comedy at El Rio** with Karen Ripley, Dan Morgan, Shan Carr & Michael Uriga. 9 pm, $5. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.
**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.
**Wkend Special for Locals**—walking tours of the Castro with Trevor Hailey, see 12/9 listing for details.

## 13 THURSDAY

**Men's Friendship Group** spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). 711 Eddy St, SF. Info: 626-7000.
**Aikido Morning Class**—see 12/4 listing for details.
**Community Health Talks** series spons by UCSF continues with "Christmas & Wintertime Blues", a talk by Louann Brizendine, MD, assistant chair of the Behavioral Neuroscience Service at Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute, on the diagnosis & treatment of wintertime depression. 7-8 pm, free. Health Sciences West Bldg, Room 303, 513 Parnassus Ave, Sf. Info: 476-3206.
**Gay/Lesbian Sierrans Holiday** Party: Bring a friend & your good cheer! Join GLS for a fun-filled holiday eve at Olive Oil's bar, Pier 50, SF. Delicious finger foods, no-host bar, lots of music & dancing. Come meet us & learn about GLS events planned for 1991. 7-11 pm, $10. Directions: Take 4th St to 3rd, left on Mission Rock.
**Bisexual & Questioning Women** are invited to a discussion on racism, spons by the Women's Radical Multicultural Alliance (WRaMBA). 7:15 pm at New College, 766 Valencia St, SF. Room 12. For info on wheelchair accessibility, SIGN or child care, call 567-6883.
**Palo Alto Lesbian Rap** Group meets 7:30-9 pm at MidPeninsula YWCA. Tonght's topic: "You're Out to Your Parents—So Now What?" presentation by two moms from PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays). All women welcome. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.
**Lesbian Gathering** meets 7:30-9:30 pm at Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Ctr. Topic: "Going Home for the Holidays: Coping with our Families' Homophobia". 1332 Commerce Lane, downtown Santa Cruz. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.
**Cocktail Party at El Rio** with comic Marga Gomez, exotic dnacer Rainbeau, female impersonator Paul Kelly as Diana Ross, and dj Peggy Key. 9 pm, free. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.
**"A Classic Tex-Mex Holiday"** with the SF Gay Men's Chorus. The classic & Tex-Mex theme allows for angelic pieces of soaring beauty in Hebrew & Latin, as well as high-fallutin', high-steppin' songs from the country/western musical traditions of the American Southwest. Tonight & tmw at the Herbst Theatre, Van Ness Ave & McAllister, SF. 8 pm. Tix $10, $15 & $30. These concerts are always a sell-out so reserve your tix early! Tix available at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St, SF or at STBS Box Offices (Union Square & Embarcadero Ctr #1). Call 864-0326 or 552-3656 for info/res.
**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You,"—Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's, see 12/6 listing for details.
**O Holy Rodeo**: Bindlestiff Productions presents a lightning fast brainstorming effort with their unusal brand of comedic dancing, singing & performing. Tonight thru 12/15. 8 pm, $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts. The Lab, 1805 Divisadero St at Bush, SF. Info: 346-4063.
**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video** show airs in the Southbay, see 12/6 listing for details.
**Contraband/Mandala**: a visionary dance work tracking the ecstatic journey of 3 young men who seek initiation into the world of their fathers. Searching their bodies for a truth not apparent in accepted images of the American male, they discover age-old wisdom & a capacity to love life, the world & each other. 8:30 pm, tonight thru 12/16, $10. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St, SF. Tonight's performance is a benefit for MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence), a community-based organization committed to stopping domestic violence. Benefit includes short discussion & reception following show. Also see 12/20 listing for workshop held in conjunction with this performance. Info/res: 621-7797.
**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.
**"Here to Stay"**: gay/lesbian talk show features chat with the founder of the Gay Rescue Mission. 10 pm on Viacom channel 25, program repeats on 12/27.
**Snakepower:** Images of Ancient Female Shamanism: slideshow/lecture with Vicki Noble, author of *Motherpeace: A Way to the Goddess through Myth, Art & Tarot*. Discussion of images of sacred women from around the world, with special focus on Goddesses & female healers in the Americas. Booksigning follows. Noon-1 pm lecture/slideshow, 1-1:30 pm booksigning. Spons by UCSF's Women's Resource Ctr. At Toland Hall, UCSF. Info: 476-0400.

## 14 FRIDAY

**Holiday Art Sale** with Creativity Explored. Unique paintings, photographs, prints & ceramic sculptures from the only full-time visual arts center for disabled adults in SF. 6-8:30 pm, 3245 16th St btwn Guerrero & Dolores, SF.
**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video show** airs tonight & 12/28, at 5 pm on cable 28 in San Jose and 7:30 pm on cable 30 in Cupertino & Los Altos. Tonight's program features UCSF professor Harold Cottram discussing his study of HIV in Black men. 12/21 program features a look back at the show's programs in the past year, and a look ahead to the future.
**4th Annual Solstice/Holiday** Ritual with Betsy Rose & Judy Fjell. 7:30 pm, $7-9 donation, with non-perishable food donations requested. Proceeds benefit Hale Laulima House, a cooperative living community for women living with AIDS/ARC, and their children. At Unitas House, 2700 Bancroft St, Berkeley. Info: 525-7082.
**"A Classic Tex-Mex Holiday"** Concert with the SF Gay Men's Chorus—tonight at Herbst Theatre, see 12/13 listing for details.
**Concert & Song Circle** with Judith Kate Friedman at Sacred Grounds Coffeehouse, 2095 Hayes at Shrader, SF. 8 pm, $4-6. Info: 668-9221.
***Cotton Pony* at Artemis Cafe:** singers Maxina Ventura & Cynthia Larsen. Folk, protest, & original music. 8 pm, $3. 1199 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-0232.
**Laura Chandler at Mama Bears:** Bay Area concert debut of this Northeast singer-songwriter. Folk/blues/jazz blend. 8 pm, $5-7. Women only. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: 428-9684.
*O Holy Rodeo* at The Lab—see 12/13 listing for details.
**The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie** production by the Dance Brigade: A Bay Area noliday tradition! Revised production features Native American dancers, rap music, an evil seven-headed mouse king attended by a slew of CIA rodents, and more. Musical score by pianist/composer Mary Watkins blends classical Tchaikovsky with jazz & rap. Choreography by Krissy Keefer & Nina Fichter combines ballet, jazz & modern dance with traditional martial arts & gymnastics. Production includes work by choreographer Terry Sendgraff & Motivity, and Axis, a dis/abled dance troupe. Performances 12/14-16 at 8 pm, 12/15 at 2 pm at Scottish Rite Auditorium, 1547 Lakeside Dr, Oakland. Tix: $13 in adv, $15 at door; $8 kids, srs & disabled. Theater is Wheelchair Accessible, all performances are signed for the deaf & hearing impaired. Info/tix: Dance Brigade 465-3686 or BASS/Ticketmaster 762-BASS. Tix also available at Modern Times Bookstore in SF, La Pena in Berkeley, and Mama Bears in Oakland.
**Sierra String Quartet** in concert at Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento St, SF. 8 pm, $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. Info: Old First Concerts 474-1608.
**Contraband/Mandala**: dance performance at Theater Artaud, see 12/13 listing for details.
**Healing into Life & Death**—register early for this upcoming workshop, see 12/7.
**Friday Night Live** at Amelia's, see 12/7 listing.

## 15 SATURDAY

**Effective Alternatives** for Wellness presents a forum of practitioners of effective alternatives, featuring Jay Baldwin, a longtime surviver & thriver. Jay tells his story in favor of alternatives. 4 pm, $5-10 SL, $50 benefactor. All proceeds benefit keeping Effective Alternatives for Wellness on the radio (KEST 14.50 am). 60 Brady St off Market, SF.
**Children's Havurah Chanukah Party** spons by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, see Parents & Kidsbox for details.
**Christmas Dinner/Dance:** 7th annual event spons by Pacific Friends at the SS Jeremiah O'Brien, Ft Mason Ctr, SF. Cocktails served 6-7 pm, followed by dinner/dance, 7 pm-midnight. Tix $20. Reservations required by 12/8, call Ron 474-7954 for res/info.
**Southbay BANGLE** (Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators) Fundraiser: 7-9 pm at Club Saint John in San Jose. Entertainment with comic Tom Ammiano. $10 at door. Includes hors d'oeuvres & prizes!
**Lesbian Social/Movie** Potluck: Monthly get-together for casual socializing & movie watching, for lesbians 30 & over. Single, monogamous, coupled, confused or whatever—if you're a lesbian 30 or over you're welcome! Bring goodies to share. Eastbay location. Info: 531-3943.
**Annual Christmas Concert** at MCC-SF: 7:30 pm, $5 adv, $6 at door. Features the church's combined choirs & chamber string ensemble. Program features Antonio Vivaldi's *Magnificant*, along with Renaissance music, Christmas spirituals & gospel, plus festive carol arrangements. Metropolitan Community Church of SF, 150 Eureka St btwn 18th & 19th, SF. Everyone welcome! Info: 863-4434.
**The Channukah Bop:** Congregation Sha'ar Zahav celebrates Channukah, the Feast of Lights, with music & dancing, silent auction of precious items, dining on a variety of delicious homemade traditional Chanukah songs & stories, plus one original story that the children present will help to make up. Especially for children of older pre-school & school age. $3. 2911 Russell St, Berkeley. Info: 849-2710.
**"Deck the Hall"** at Davies: treat the kids to a festive holiday party with decorated trees, refreshments & entertainment, plus a special appearance by Santa Claus! An SF Symphony holiday tradition. 12/1. Two shows: 11 am & 3 pm. Tix $15 adults, $10 kids. Info/res: 431-5400.
**"Peter & the Wolf"** with Bobby McFerrin & the SF Symphony Youth Orchestra. McFerrin narrates Peter & the Wolf in this special family holiday concert. 12/16, 1 & 3 pm at Davies Symphony Hall, SF. Info/res: 431-5400.
**Mascaritas Puppet Theatre** presents modern adaptations of children's tales: 12/1 & 2; part of Festival Fantochio fest of modern puppetry. At Climate Theatre, 252 9th St, SF. Info: 626-9196.
**SF Boys Chorus** annual Holiday Concert: 12/2, 4 pm, $10 gen'l, $5 srs & kids. Works by Bach & several American composers, as well as traditional carols. USF Lone Mountain campus, 2800 Turk St btwn Masonic & Parker. Info: 665-2330.
**SF Drum Festival** features performance by the Children's Drum Ensemble on 12/7, see Main Calendar listing for details.
**Plum City Players** present Jose-Luiz Orozco, Latin American folksinger/songwriter, in a program of songs & stories for kids of all ages. 12/8 at 10:30 am, $3 adults, $2 kids, babies are free. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.
**Cinderella**—Young Performers Theatre presents the beautiful children's classic, Sat & Sun at 1 & 3:30 pm thru 12/23. Young Performers Theatre, Ft Mason Ctr Bldg C, room 300 (Marina & Laguna Blvds, SF). Tix: $4 under 13 years, $6 13 & over. Info/res: 346-5550.
**Fairy Tale Stew** by Dylan Russell. A contemporary recipe of three popular fairy tales (Cinderella, Chicken Little & the Snow Queen) brought into the 90's. New Conservatory Children's Theatre production. Saturdays thru December at the Zephyr Theatre complex, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. 1 & 3 pm, $7 gen'l, $5 kids & srs. Info/res: 861-4915.
**Kids Programs at Lawrence Hall of Science:** 12/27, "Animal & Wintertelling Tales", noon & 1:30 pm; 12/29 "Kids Love Kulintang," Filipino Jamboree, noon & 1 pm; 12/30, Children's Concert with Gary Lapow, noon & 1:30 pm; 12/31, Holiday Balloons—New Year's Eve celeb with balloon-tying specialist Emmie Dell Reed, who creates hundreds of animals out of balloons, 11 am-3 pm. Call 642-5133 for tix info.
**9th Annual Black Nativity**: Allen Temple Cantateers production of Langston Hughes' song-play. See 12/1 listing in Main Calendar for details.
**Fairs & Festivals in December:** See Main Calendar for details—Women's Bldg Arts & Crafts Fair, 1st 2 wkends in Dec, see 12/8; 6th Annual Latin American Holiday Crafts Fair, spons by Pueblo to People, see 12/1; The Victorian Holiday Faire, see 12/1; Christmas in Sausalito Crystal Faire, see 12/8; Santa Lucia Yule Mart & Craft Fair, see 12/8.

# PARENTS & KIDS BOX

**Lesbian Mothers/Persian Gulf Crisis:** Lesbian mothers of sons or daughters serving in the armed services in the Persian Gulf get together for support & talk. Gay fathers are welcome. Info: Nancy 239-5692.
**Gay Fathers Holiday Party** for dads, their friends & kids of all ages. Celebrate Hanukkah & Christmas with food & entertainment. 12/8, 5 pm. Trinity Episcopal Church, Bush & Gough Sts, SF. Info: 759-5122.
**Children's Havurah Chanukah Party** spons by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav: Songs, games, food, gifts, teaching, candlelighting—bring your own menorah & candles. Newcomers are especially welcome. 12/15, 6-7:30 pm (parents stay for the adult Chanukah party, 7:30-10 pm, childare $5 with pre-registration only, call 334-7635). Unitarian Ctr, Franklin & Geary, SF.
**"Meowy Christmas"** 17th annual all-housecat show to benefit the SFPCA. 12/2, 10 am-6 pm, $3 gen'l, $2 srs, $1 kids. Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Blvd, Hayward. Info: 276-2766.
**Chanukah Songs & Storytelling** Afternoon at Judah Agnes Museum: 12/2, 2 pm. Storyteller Sara Shendelman presents

latkes, a raffle with magnicent prizes, and many more holiday treats—7:30-10 pm at First Unitarian Ctr, Franklin & Geary Sts, SF. The public is welcome to attend, $10 fee. Info: 861-6932.

**At Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore/** Coffeehouse: erotic readings with author/columnist Pat Califia, plus Lisa Carruthers & Sonja Franeta. 8:30 pm, $4-8 SL. Wheelchair Accessible. 175 Stockton Ave, San Jose. Info: (408) 293-9372.

***O Holy Rodeo***—last performance! See 12/13 listing for details.

**The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie** is back! See 12/14 listing for details.

**Donna Ozawa at Artemis Cafe:** thought-provoking original music with sharp political & social consciousness. 8 pm, $4-6 SL. 1199 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-0232.

**Music/Comedy Improv** with Over Our Heads—best laughs in town, courtesy of Karen Ripley, Teresa Chandler, Annie Larson & Marian Damon. 8 pm, $7-9. Women only. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: 428-9684.

**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's, see 12/6 listing for details.

**Contraband/Mandala**: dance performance at Theater Artaud, see 12/13 listing for details.

**No Christmas Carols:** concert of contemporary music at Footwork Studio. Exciting evening of new music by local composers Elinor Armer, Lans McLoskey, Jonathan Segel, Marguerite Trojanowska & Enric Zappa. 8:30 pm, $8 gen'l, $5 stdnts & srs. 3221 22nd St at Mission, SF. Tix: 433-STBS.

**Other Cinema at ATA** (Artists Television Access): "Super 8/All City" semi-annual showcase of SF's best Super-8, crosscutting technical improv with radical subjectivities. 8:30 pm, $5. 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.

**"Outlook" video show airs tonight** in the Southbay, see 12/15 listing for program details.

**Considering Therapy?** Wkshop—see 12/1 listing for details.

**Exploring the Heart of Healing in AIDS**: with Ram Dass & Stephen Levine. Register early for this event—see 12/8.

**Coastal Trail**/West Mt Tamalpais Hike with Gay/Lesbian Sierrans: moderate 6-7 mile hike along the beautiful coastal trail. Mostly flat terrain with one moderately difficult ascent over Coastal Ridge. Bring water, lunch, snacks & rain jacket. Boots suggested. To carpool: meet 9 am at Church/Market Safeway in SF or at Pan Toll Ranger Station at 9:45 am. Rain cancels.

**Berkeley Potters Guild** Christmas Show & Sale—see 12/1 listing for details.

**Briones Regional Park Hike** with Gay/Lesbian Sierrans: moderate 5-6 mile loop thru the forested canyons of Briones Park in the Eastbay. Bring lunch & water. Meet 10 am in Briones parking lot. Info/directions: 534-1861. Rain cancels.

**Women's Bldg 12th Annual Arts & Crafts** Fair: holiday extravaganza continues at Ft Mason—see 12/8 for details.

**Rock at El Rio** with *Wannabe Texans, Genuine Diamelles,* and Mark Eitzol of *Great American Music Club*. 10 pm, $5. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

**Gay Comedy Night** at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint with emcee Mario Mondelli and comics Karen Williams, Bushman and Kittell, and Suzy Berger. 10 pm, $8. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

**The Printmakers' Gallery** annual Christmas Show—see 12/8 listing for details.

## 16 SUNDAY

**Poetry reading & rain incantation** at Emeryville Marina Park, spons by the Bay Ara Poets Coalition & Emeryville Marina Harbormaster. 1-4 pm. Several ministries of various demoninations give brief illustrations of Biblical events that have occured in times of drought. Local writers, artists & the public are welcome to share their favorite verses. Rain cancels.

**Fall in Love with Guitar:** open house for current & would-be students of acoustic guitar & voice with Judith Kate Friedman at The 5th String, 5957 Geary Blvd at 24th Ave, SF. Bring instruments, find out about January classes. 1-4 pm, free. Live music, refreshments. Info: 668-8282, 668-9221.

**Peter & the Wolf**, with Bobby McFerrin at Davies Symphony Hall, see Parents & Kidsbox for details.

**G40 Plus Club** Holiday Party: music, singing & other surprises, don't miss! 2-4 pm at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary, SF. Info: 552-1997.

**A Chanukah Afternoon of Jewish** Poetry at the Judah Magnes Museum. Awards ceremony & reading of winners in the 4th annual Anna Davidson Rosenberg Awards for Poems on the Jewish Experience. 2 pm. Also featues a dramatic reading by poets Steve Rood & Marcia Falk from Judaica scholar Falks' new translation & interpretation, *The Song of Songs: Love Lyrics from the Bible*. Judges for this year were Stewart Florsheim, editor of *Ghosts of the Holocaust*; Gail Newman, SF coordinator of California Poets in the Schools; and poet/teacher Barbara Reisner. 2911 Russell St, Berkeley. Info: 849-2710.

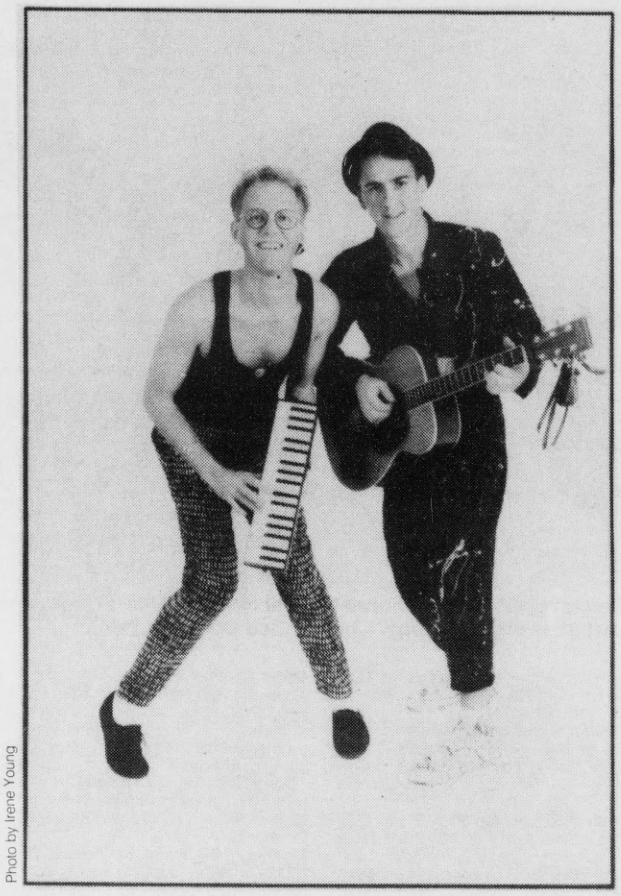

Photo by Irene Young

**Romanovsky & Phillips (plus July Fjell) play Berkeley Dec 7.**

**Vocalist Samm Gray** in Concert at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint. An afternoon of fine jazz, blues, gospel & show standards, delivered with natural & distinctive style. 4 pm. For tix & other info call 861-7933. 3583 16th St, SF.

**Fabulous Channukah Party** with the women of Shir Nashim: join us for singing, lighting candles, eating & playing dreidels. Bring homemade latkes & a recipe for the latke-tasting contest! Also bring a menorah if you have one. 4-8 pm, $3-5 donation. This event is for lesbians, bisexuals & their women friends. For info/location: 533-4778.

**Hard Candy Christmas**: A candy & fantasy dance featuring the big band sound of *City Swing* with Gail Wilson, and special guests *Vocal Minority*, Partners for Peace. Complimentary dance class with hostess Cynthia Glinka. 5 pm, $10. No-host bar. Spons by the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts. At Contours Gallery, 50 Otis St, SF. Tix/info: 621-5619. See you there!

**Annual Holiday Get-Together** spons by Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Center: music, food & fun for all—come out for a pleasant evening of socializing & sharing holiday spirit—bring a dessert to share! 5-8 pm, 1332 Commerce Lane, downtown Santa Cruz. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.

**Soberdome: Clean & Sober** Holiday Dance Party benefit for L/SM Round-Up. Come sit on Ms or Mr Leather Santa, help light the human Menorah. Live dj. 50/50 raffle. 6-10 pm at Thunderdome, 175 King St near 3rd, SF. $6-10 SL.

**At A Different Light Bookstore:** opening reception for Sacramento-based artist Bruce Vasquez, whose work will be displayed thru 1/4. 6 pm. 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.

**Hortiphiles Visit Strybring** Ayboretum Library: 9 am continental talk by librarian Susan Eubank, 8 am continental breakfast in adjoining SF County Fair Bldg, Golden Gate Park, SF. Also monthly business mtg at 10 am. Hortiphiles is a lesbian/gay group of plant lovers. Info: Michael (415) 826-2515 or Henrietta (408) 246-1117.

**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's, see 12/6 listing on details.

**The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie** is back! See 12/14 for details. Tonight's the final performance of this Bay Area holiday tradition!

**Traditional Christmas Reading**: Actor Robert Coffman returns to A Different Light Bookstore to present his reading of Truman Capote's classic Christmas story. 8 pm, free. 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.

**Jane Gilman & Nina Gerber** in concert at Plowshares, Judith Kate Friedman opens. 8 pm, $7 gen'l, $4 srs & kids. Ft Mason Ctr, Bay & Laguna Sts, SF. Info: 441-8910.

**North Mt Tam/Cataract Falls Hike:** strenuous 10-15 mile hike thru beautiful lands owned by Marin Municipal Water District. Explore network of lakes, see spectacular Cataract Falls. Bring lunch, snacks, water, boots & attire appropriate to the weather. Meet 8:30 am in front of Church/Market Thrifty or 9:35 am at Bon Tempe Dam parking lot. Info/directions: 861-6591.

**Contraband/Mandala**: dance performance at Theater Artaud, see 12/13 listing for details.

**Palo Alto Lesbian Rap** Group Field Trip—to the Women's Bldg Crafts Fair. Meet 9:30 am at the MidPeninsula YWCA for carpooling, return around 5 pm. All women are welcome! Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

**Berkeley Potters Guild** Christmas Show & Sale, see 12/1 listing for details.

**Women's Bldg 12th Annual Arts & Crafts** Fair: last day of the annual holiday extravaganza—don't miss! See 12/8 listing for details.

**Sunset Blvd Run** (in reverse) with SF Frontrunners. Meet 10 am under the bridge at Sloat Blvd & Sunset, SF, for a 4.5 mile flat run to Golden Gate Park & back. Info: Rod 621-2213.

**FLSG Holiday Brunch**: The Feminist Lesbian Social Group meets 11 am at Cherie's house in San Jose. Newcomers are welcome! For info/directions, call (408) 998-1155.

**The Printmakers' Gallery** annual Christmas Show & Sale—see 12/8 listing for details.

## 17 MONDAY

**All-Star Holiday Musical** presented by BATS (Bay Area Theatresports). An eve of improvised holiday musical stories, followed by festive improvised caroling at end of show. Directed by Barbara Scott. 8 pm, $10. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info/res: 824-8220.

**Gay Comedy Open Mike** at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint. Emcee Karen Williams. 8:30 pm, $4. Performer sign-up by phone by 7:30 pm. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

**Diagonally Speaking**: Alternative Lifestyle Programming in San Jose, see 12/3.


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# 18 TUESDAY

**Aikido Morning Class**—see 12/4 listing for details.
**Winter Solstice Celebration** with ritual & communion with the Church of Amron. 7 pm, all welcome. 2254 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 775-0227.
**Eco-Tourism:** Conservation-Minded Travel with the Sierra Club: Gay/Lesbian Sierrans monthly mtg speaker is John DeCock, director of outings for Sierra Club. DeCock discusses the diversity of hiking, biking, backpacking, canoeing, kayaking & service-oriented trips to destinations all over the US, and the most remote corners of the world. 7:30 pm, free. Refreshments served. Sierra Club National Office, 730 Polk St at Ellis, SF. 4th floor library.
**Men's Night Out**—drop-in discussion group for gay men, spons by Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Ctr, meets 7:30 pm, 1332 Commerce Lane, Santa Cruz. Info: (408) 425-LGCC
**Bob Gluck & Bill Berkson** read from their work at Intersection for the Arts. Gluck is director of the Poetry Center at SF State & author of *Reader*, his recent collection of short prose & poems, which was nominated for both the BABRA & LAMBDA Awards. Berkson is a poet & art critic, & currently coordinator of Art History Theory & Criticism at SF Art Institute. 8 pm, $2. 446 Valencia St, SF. Info: 626-ARTS.
**Healing Power of Music:** a benefit for Hospice, presented by Bright Moments Music Lovers Club. A salute to Visiting Nurses & Hospice for the great service they provide to the Bay Area. An evening of jazz, gospel & blues at Kimball's West, San Francisco. Performers include Margie Baker & Friends, pianist Larry Chinn, bassist Toni Clarke, drummer Bob Scott & Jules Broussard on sax; vocalist Dianne Witherspoon; gospel singer Allowyn Price; vocalist Fran Foston & *The Disciples of Prayer*. For Hospice info call Gail Bigelow 861-8705, for tix call 822-1314.
**Matriarchal Past Life Journey:** part of a series of ongoing weekly classes for women. Journey on a path that reveals a past life you may have had in a matriachal culture. Guided meditation for women who have some experience with energy, meditation & grounding. 8-10 pm, $15-20 SL. Info: Pati McDermott, psychic counslor & hypnotherapist, 652-6355.
**Complimentary Spinal Exam** & Blood Pressure Check at Silverman Chiropractic, see 12/4 listing for details.
**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.

# 19 WEDNESDAY

**Best of the Festival** series presented by Frameline at the Castro Theatre, SF. See 12/5 listing for details.
**Holiday Celebration with** Discovery: A Gay Men's Discussion Group, see 12/5 listing for details.
**Advent Vespers:** Candlelight service at MCC-SF, see 12/5.
**Maiden, Mother & Crone**: An Eve of Generational Reading at Mama Bears with Jesse Hewitt, Marianne Hewitt & Natalie Zarchin, reading poetry by Kate Rosenblatt, Mary Flick, Jeanne Jullion & Maya Winslow. 7 pm, $5-8. Women only. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: 428-9684.
***Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra*** perform Handel's "Messiah" tonight at 7:30 pm at First Methodist Church in Palo Alto. Program repeats on 12/21 at Herbst Theatre, SF, 7:30 pm; 12/22 at Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley, 7:30 pm & 12/23 at 7 pm. Tix: $17-$24. Info: 552-3656.
**"Esmerelda & Mr Morgan"** at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, see 12/12 listing for details.
**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video** show airs in the Eastbay tonight, see 12/5 listing for program details.
**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.

# 20 THURSDAY

**The Men of Contraband** present a workshop in conjunction with "Mandala" (see 12/13). Entitled "Solstice: The Sun (Son) is Dying to be Born Again", this intensive wkshop for men includes movement, voice, drumming, ritual training & creative process for confronting male violence, homophobia, & emotional/creativity blocks. Tonight & tmw, 7-10 pm; and 12/22, 11 am-11 pm. $75-125. Info: 558-8821.
**Author Louise Rafkin** discusses & signs copies of her book, *Different Mothers: Sons & Daughters of Lesbians Talk About Their Lives*. 7:30 pm at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.
**Lesbians Welcoming Women**: New in town? Been Around for awhile? Join other friendly women for food & conversation at Artemis Cafe, 23rd & Valencia St, SF. 7:30 pm.
**Palo Alto Lesbian Rap** Group Clay Night: Bring tools & accessories to make & decorate your wildest clay creation (clay provided, you bring your imagination & good humor!) 7:30-9 pm at MidPeninsula YWCA. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.
***City of Quartz:*** *Excavating the Future in Los Angeles*—author Mike Davis discusses his long-awaited new book at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. A passionate & witty look at the history of Los Angeles. Info: 282-9246.
**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/6 listing for details.
**Handel-Mozart Messiah**: part of SF Symphony's holiday concerts. Mozart's version of Handel's "Messiah" sung, as Mozart set it, in German. Conducted by Andrew Parrott. 8 pm tonight & tmw at Davies Symphony Hall. Pre-concert lecture 7-7:30 pm. Info/res: 431-5400.
**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video** show airs 8:30 pm in the Southbay, see 12/6.
**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.

# 21 FRIDAY

**Women's Winter Solstice** Celebration for lesbians over 50, spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). 7 pm. Call Pat 626-7000 for details.
***Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra*** presents Handel's "Messiah", see 12/19.
**Singer/Songwriter Abby Smith** gives a satiric & energizing concert at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. 8 pm, $6. Women only. Info: 428-9684.
**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/6 listing for details.
**Popular Rhythms** & Christmas Songs with Venezuelan singer & cuatro player Carlos Briceno at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St, SF. 8 pm, $4-6 SL. Info: 821-0232.
**Festival Consort** & Consort of Voices: in concert at Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento St, SF. 8 pm, $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. Info: Old First Concerts 474-1608.
**Cross-Country Ski Wkend:** see 12/7 for details.
**Healing into Life & Death:** register early for this upcoming workshop, see 12/7.
**Friday Night Live** at Amelia's, see 12/7.

# 22 SATURDAY

***Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra*** presents Handel's "Messiah", see 12/19.
**Music & Comedy** at Artemis Cafe with Monica Grant! 8 pm, $6-8 SL. 1199 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-0232.
**Mama Bears Winter Solstice** Celebration: 8 pm, $2 donation. Women only. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: 428-9684.

**Golden Gate Ment's Chorus and Sacramento Men's Chorus get together for a winter concert at Trinity Episcopal Church. See Dec 8 for info.**

**Other Cinema Series** at ATA (Artists Television Access) features "New Experimental Works", a night of the "latest & greatest" in Bay Area 16mm experiments. 8:30 pm, $5. 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.
**"Don't Make Me Say Things** That Will Hurt You," Doug Holsclaw's one-man show at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/6 listing for details.
**Exploring the Heart of Healing in AIDS** with Ram Dass & Stephen Levine. Register early for this event, see 12/8.
**Berkeley Potters Guild** Christmas Show & Sale: see 12/1 listing for details.
**Gay Comedy Night at Josie's** Cabaret. Emcee Mario Mondelli and comics Karen Ripley, Lisa Geduldig & Marilyn Pittman. 10 pm, $8. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.
**Strawberry Canyon Herb Walk**: learn to use & identify edible & medicinal plants, see 12/2 listing for details.

# 23 SUNDAY

**Gag-Gift Party** spons by The Living Room: 6 pm at 4035 18th St (next to Hot 'n Hunky), SF. Come join in the fun—call 252-1150 for info.
***Philarmonia Baroque Orchestra*** presents Handel's "Messiah", see 12/19.
**Berkeley Potters Guild** Christmas Show & Sale: see 12/1 listing for details.
**Stern Grove Run** with SF Frontrunners. Meet 10 am at the entrance to Stern Grove, Sloat & 19th Ave, SF, for a 4 mile run thru Stern Grove, out Wawona St to the ocean, and back. Info: Rod 621-2213.
**Strawberry Canyon Herb Walk**—learn to identify & use edible & medicinal plants, see 12/2 listing for details.

# 24 MONDAY

**Christmas Eve Candlelight** Communion Services: Come celebrate Christmas with the gay & lesbian community! Two services: 7 & 11 pm. 150 Eureka St btwn 18th & 19th St, SF. Info: 863-4434.
**Home for the Holidays:** Christmas Eve concert with the SF Gay Men's Chorus. An eve of traditional favorites & contemporary additions. Program features high-spirited songs of the American Southwest, such as "Hard Candy Christmas," "Ringin' In Christmas, Country Style," and "Christmas for Cowboys"; plus seasonal favorites including Franz Biel's "Ave Maria," and Ron Nelson's rapturous "Ring Out Wild Bells". Rounding out the holiday concert is "Praise Thy Power," a suite of four songs for Chanukkah by Adler, commissioned by GALA, the assoc of Gay & Lesbian Choruses. Two shows: 7 & 9:30 pm, $8. Castro Theatre, SF. Tix available at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St, SF or the Castro Theatre Box Office, call 864-0326 and come home for the holidays!
**Christmas Winds** Concert: Old First Church's annual Christmas Eve program of medieval & Renaissance Christmas music. Concludes with a sing-a-long! 8 pm program with members of the *Baroque Arts Ensemble*. Tix: $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. 1751 Sacramento St, SF. Info: Old First Concerts 474-1608.
**Diagonally Speaking**: alternative lifestyle programming in San Jose, see 12/3.

# 25 TUESDAY

**The Living Room's Annual X-Mas** Day Potluck Dinner: 1 pm at 4035 18th St (next to Hot 'n Hunky), SF. Bring a dish or just come be with us! The Living Room is a nonprofit social club for people with HIV. Info: 252-1150.
**Christmas Day Run** with SF Frontrunners—meet 9 am under the giant Christmas tree at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, for runs of any lenth thru the Park. Info: Rod 621-2213.
**Mama Bears Coffeehouse/Bookstore** is open all day Christmas Day, 10 am-7 pm. Drop by & say hello! 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: 428-9684.
**Christmas Eve Candlelight** Communion Services: A gay & lesbian community Christmas celebration with Metropolitan Community Church of SF. 11 am, followed by potluck luncheon. Everyone is welcome! 150 Eureka St, btwn 18th & 19th, SF. Info: 863-4434.

# 26 WEDNESDAY

**Writers' Wkshop for Older** Writers: spons by GLOE, see 12/12 for details.
**Advent Vespers**: Candlelight service at MCC-SF, see 12/5.
**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.

# 27 THURSDAY

**Aikido Moring Class**—see 12/4 listing for details.
**"A Year to Dismember"**—Tom Ammiano presents a comedy revue of stand-up & skits with Karen Ripley, Karen Williams & Jeanine Strobel. 8 pm tonight thru 12/30, 7:30 & 10 pm on New Year's Eve, at Eureka Theatre, 2730 16th St, SF. Info/res: 558-9811.
**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video** show airs tonight in the Southbay, see 12/6.
**Women's Aikido School of SF**—see 12/4 listing for details.
**"Here to Stay"** lesbian/gay talk show—see 12/13 for details.

# 28 FRIDAY

**"Outlook" lesbian/gay video** show airs tonight in the Southbay, see 12/14 listing for details.
**Violinist Patricia Weiss** & pianist Juli Homi in concert at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St, SF. 8 pm, $4-6 SL. Info: 821-0232.
**"A Year to Dismember"**—night of comedy at Eureka Theatre, produced by Tom Ammiano—see 12/27 listing for details.
**Parli italiano?** Come celebrate the holidays Italian style in an informal evening's chatter with a friendly group, from beginners to natives. 8 pm, SF location.

Info: Paolino 431-6414 (wk), 282-4956 (hm).
**Cross-Country Ski Wkend**—see 12/7 for details.
**Friday Night Live** at Amelia's, see 12/7.

## 29 SATURDAY

**North Coast Backpack/Car Camp:** today thru 1/1. Join Gay/Lesbian Sierrans for a New Year's camping trip to the beautiful North Coast. Info: 861-6591 or 552-2223 ASAP for further info/reg.
**"A Year to Dismember"**—night of comedy stand-up & skits at Eureka Theatre, produced by Tom Ammiano, see 12/27 listing for details.
**Vicki Randle Concert** at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. 8 pm, $7. Women only. Don't miss! Info: 428-9684.
**Open Mike Night** at Artemis Cafe—all performers welcome! 8 pm, $3. 1199 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-0232.
**Considering Therapy?** Wkshop—see 12/1 listing for details.

## 30 SUNDAY

***The Jesters* in Concert:** This vocal trio celebrates the classic American songs of the Jazz Era, the 1920's and '30's, in authentic recreations & original adaptations. 4 pm, $6. 3583 16th St at Market St, SF. Info: 861-7933.
**Potluck & Video Night** at Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Ctr. Bring your favorite dish to share, see video *Tongues Untied*. 5:30 pm. 1332 Commerce Lane, downtown Santa Cruz. Info: (408) 425-LGCC.
**AJIRA** (Addicted Jews in Recovery Anonymous) Mtg: A recovering Jewish addict shares on the 12th Step. AJIRA is a program for Jews in recovery from addiction & for their significant others. Meetings include speakers, discussion & celebration, all from a Jewish perspective. Free. SF Jewish Community Ctr, SF. Info: Claire 346-6040 ext 240.
**MCC-SF Healing Service** for people with AIDS & other life-threatening illnesses. 7 pm at Metropolitan Community Church of SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 863-4434.
**"A Year to Dismember"**—a night of stand-up comedy & skits at Eureka Theatre, produced by Tom Ammiano—see 12/27 listing for details.
**Ft Point Run** with SF Frontrunners. Meet at 10 am at Ft Point, under the Golden Gate Bridge, for a flat 5 mile run to the Marina Green parking lot & back. Info: Rod 621-2213.

## 31 MONDAY

**"A Year to Dismember"**—come laugh out the old year! A night of stand-up comedy & skits produced by Tom Ammiano. Features Ammiano and Karen Ripley, Karen Williams & Jeanine Strobel. Two shows!—7:30 & 10 pm at Eureka Theater, 2730 16th St, SF. Info: 558-9811.
**New Year's Eve Party** with the bad boys of a cappella, *The Edlos*, at Julia Morgan Theatre, SF. Includes champagne, buffet, suprise guests. 8 pm, $20-25. Info: 775-9627.
**Living Sober/Western Roundup** 1991: Annual New Year's Eve clean & sober bash for people in recovery. 9 pm-1 am at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary, SF. $6-12 SL. AA & Alanon mtg before dance, at 7:30 pm. Spons by Living Sober, a conference for people in recovery from alcohol, hosted by the SF gay & lesbian fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.
**NOW New Year's Eve Dance** for women, lesbians, feminists, NOW members and guests. Chem-free. Dancing to the 5-woman band, *Watch Out*. 9 pm-2 am at ILWU Union Hall, 4 Berry St at 2nd, SF (nr China Basin). Tix: $50, $25 & $15. Includes refreshments, door prizes, midnight noisemakers, free parking. Benefit for SF Nat'l Organization for Women.
**New Year's Eve with Sharon McNight** and musical director James Followell at the Blue Muse. Two shows: 9 pm, $20; 11 pm, $30. 409 Gough St at Hayes, SF. For show and/or dinner reservations call 626-7505.
**Annual New Year's Eve Party** spons by Girth & Mirth Club of SF: fun starts at 9 pm tonight. Finger foods, munchies, soft drinks, beer, wine & champagne at midnight. Lots of good dance music—bring your friends! 9 pm, $5. 176 Page St, SF. Info: 824-0260 or call the hotline: 552-1143.
**Annual Red, Black & White** New Year's Eve Ball: Come dance to the sizzling Afro beat of *Kotoja*, plus hot Bay Area rap band and KPFA dj Dave Cook. Tix $15 in adv, $20 at door. Proceeds benefit FMLN Medical Projects & the work of CISPES & NICCA. At Longshoreman's Hall, 400 North Point, SF. Free parking & BART shuttle. For childcare & tix info call CISPES 648-8222.
**Mardi Gras on the Bay**: New Year's Eve bash presented by the Santa Cruz AIDS Project. A classy affair with a Mardi Gras theme—includes cocktails & creole dining, female impersonators & dancing with Del Rey & *The Gators*. Fun starts at 7 pm at La Selva Beach Clubhouse. $50 per person, proceeds benefit Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP). Info/res: Don Varni (408) 722-2615.
**New Year's Eve Bash** at El Rio, 3158 Mission St, SF. Call 282-3325 for details!
**Diagonally Speaking**: alternative lifestyle programming in San Jose, see 12/3 listing for details.

# GALLERIES

**Jewish Community Museum:** "Illuminations," exhibit features works by contemporary artists who either continue the tradition of "illuminators" or whose abstract conceptions begin with the Hebrew letter. Works exhibited in conjunction with examples of historical manuscripts which explore the ongoing history & importance of written works in Jewish tradition. Works by French artist Dominique Fajnzang & American artist Martha Casenave comprise major portion of exhibit. Thru 1/20/91. "Hanukka: Celebrations of Freedom" participatory exhibit 12/4, call for details. 121 Steuart St, SF. Hrs: Sun & Tues-Fri, 10 am-4 pm. Closed Sat & Mon. Admission free. Info: 543-8880.
**Judah L Magnes Museum:** "The Name is Familiar: An Historical Portrait of Bay Area Jewry, 1849-1950" Bay Area Jewish business, political, religious & cultural communities are profiled in 25 portraits & important archival documents, on exhibit thru 2/24/91. "Fritz Hirschberger: Sur-Rational Paintings", large oils on canvas depicting the Holocaust's inhumanities, thru 2/24/91. Hrs: Sun-Thurs, 10 am-4 pm, closed Jewish & federal holidays. Info: 849-2710. 2911 Russell St, Berkeley.
**University Art Museum, Berkeley:** "Anxious Visions: Surrealist Art", thru 12/30, University Art Museum, UC Berkeley. Hrs: Wed-Sun, 11 am-5 pm. Info: 642-1438.
**Ansel Adams Center:** "The Garden Series" by Bay Area photographer Gay Outlaw, thru 12/20. "Revelaciones: the Art of Manuel Alvarez", exhibit of 113 images, thru 12/30. "Ansel Adams, the American Wilderness" thru 3/7/91. 250 Fourth St, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sun, 11 am-6 pm. $3 gen'l, $2 srs & stdnts. Kids under 12 are free. Info: 495-7000.
**SF Camerawork:** "Shadowy Evidence" photos by Native Americans of themselves, curated by Rod Slemmons, and "Our Chiefs & Elders" photos by Navid Neel, Kwagiutl. On exhibit 12/13-1/26. Gallery talk—Rod Slemmons with Lewis deSoto, 8 pm on 1/15, $3/5, following reception. 70 12th St, SF. Hrs: noon-5 pm, Tues-Sat. Info: 621-1001.
**Hatley Martin Gallery:** "Creation Myths for an Age of Despair" mixed media paintings by Dean Dresser. Exhibit runs thru 1/12. Artist's salon on 12/6 at 7:30 pm, to explore new considerations created by Dresser's work. Hrs: Tues-Sat, 11 am-5 pm, or by appt. 41 Powell St, SF. Info: 392-1015.
**Cartoon Art Museum**: "The Art of Fantasia" exhibit of over 100 pieces of original art, posters & artifacts from the celebrated Disney movie. Thru 1/26. 665 Third St at Townsend, SF. Hrs: 11 am-5 pm Wed-Fri, 10 am-5 pm Sat. Info: 546-3922, 546-9481.
**At NewLangton Arts**: a site-specific installation by Bay Area artist Mie Preckler, 12/14-1/19. Artist's reception 12/14, 6-8 pm. Hrs: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 1246 Folsom St btwn 8th & 9th, SF. Info: 626-5416.
**Robert Dana Gallery:** works by NY expressionist painter Sarena Rosenfeld. On exhibit thru 12/10. 1849 Union St, SF. Hrs: 11 am-7 pm Mon & Thurs-Sat; noon-6 pm Sun. Tues & Wed by appt only. Info: 749-1849.
**At Capp Street Project:** viewer-activated architectual installation by Bay Area artists Frances Butler & Chip Sullivan. Exhibit runs thru 12/22. Capp Street Project/AVT, 270 14th St, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm. Free. Info: 626-7747.
**At Vorpal Gallery:** Mixed media paintings by Francis Hines. Exploration of the connection between the human & the mechanical. Thru 12/31. 393 Grove St, SF. Info: 397-9200.
**"Black Men, Endangered Species,"** paintings & drawings by JJ Jackson on exhibit at Sargent Johnson Gallery, Western Addition Cultural Ctr, 762 Fulton St, SF Thru 12/16. Hrs: Wed-Sat, 1-6 pm. Info: 921-7976.
**Erotic Photography Exhibit** at Good Vibrations. Exhibit of photos by London-based photographer Jill Posener. Thru 1/1. 1210 Valencia St, SF. Info: 550-7399.
**Oil & Acrylic Paintings** & ink drawings by Julie McNiel at Soft Touch Gallery. Thru 12/30, reception 12/8, 7-9 pm. 1580 Haight St, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sun, 11 am-6 pm. Info: 863-3279.
**Mark I Chester**: selection of hot, male, sensual, erotic leather black & white fine art photos at Stormy Leather, 1158 Howard St, SF. 12/7 thru end of January.
**Works by Micah Schwaberow**, woodblock printmaker, on exhibit thru 12/2 at Antonio Prieto Memorial Gallery, Mills College, 5000 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland. Info: 430-2164.
**Sculpted Wire & Assemblage** by RT McClain on display at Bucci's Restaurant. Thru 12/22. 6121 Hollis St, Emeryville. Info: 547-4725.
**The Jazz Image**, group exhibit of photographs by Milton Hinton, Veryl Oakland & Giuseppe Pino. Thru 12/31 at Kimball's East, 5800 Shellmound St, Emeryville. Info: 658-2555.
**Road to California** quilt exhibit at Mills College Art Gallery, thru 12/16. Info: 430-2164.

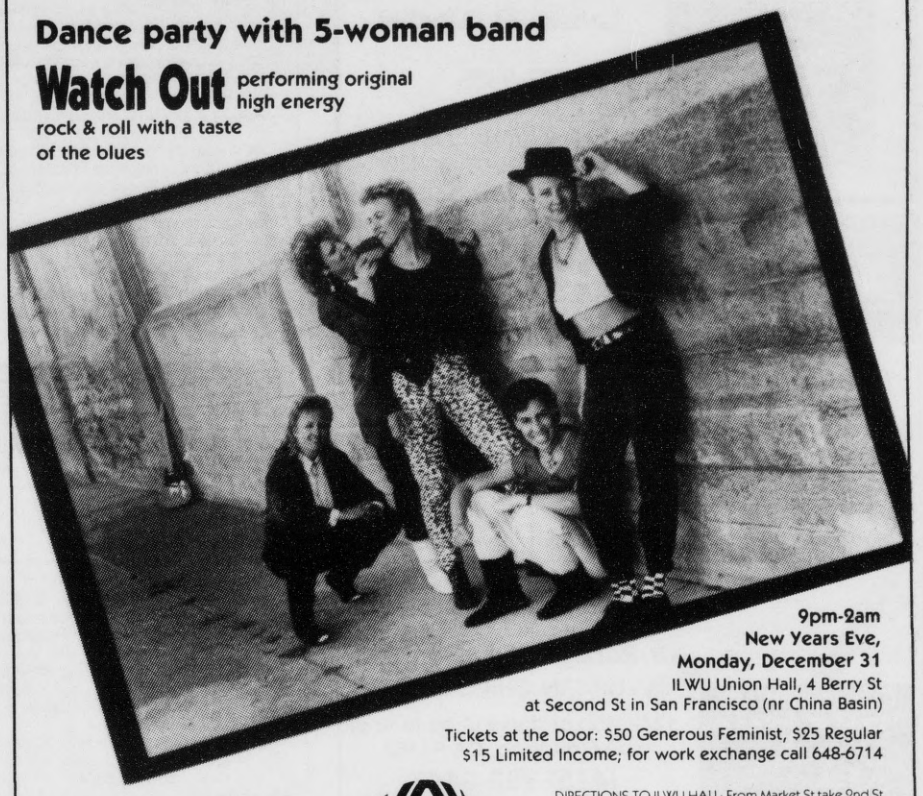
# ON STAGE

**976 LOVE** a dance-play in three acts, by Rachel Kaplan, with Susan Greene, Lise Swenson, Cori O & Miranda Mellis. Performance piece explores the possibilities of intimacy in the context of the familial, mythic & cultural images that make connection so difficult. 12/13-15 at 1800 Square Feet, 719 Clementina St at 9th, SF. 8:30 pm, $4-10 at door, no one turned away for lack of funds. No one turned away for lack of vagina. Info/res: 773-8706, 826-4821.
**Suspended Life** by Veronique Guillaud. The latest in the Mundial Sisters' "Enclosure Series" of performance works exploring the state of confinement by and within a society. Magic Theatre production. Runs Wed-Sat thru 12/8 at Magic's Northside Theatre. Tix $10. Info/res: 441-8822.
**Dream Bardo** by Lambs Eat Ivy musical performance troupe. A nasty fall from a ladder lands a librarian among cooing angels & groveling devils in the misty light of Bardo (the period between death & rebirth described in the Tibetan Book of the Dead). There she joins the Parade of Illusion as it moves to the beat of psychedelic hillbilly songs. Thurs-Sun, 12/13-16 at 8 pm at Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia St, SF. Tix $10. Info/res: 626-ARTS.
**A Question of Loyalty** by Hiroshi Kashiwagi. Subtle blend of the personal & political. Tells the story of two people who fall in love in a WWII "relocation center". Based on the author's personal experiences and interviews with other camp victims. Asian American Theater Co. Runs Wed-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 3 pm thru 12/9. Asian American Theater, 403 Arguello Blvd at Clement St, SF. Tix: $13 Wed, Thurs & Sun, $15 Fri & Sat. Info/res: 751-2600.
**Life During Wartime** by Keith Reddin. Darkly comic fable juxtaposes today's threadbare social fabric with the philosophy of 16th century theologian John Calvin, the patron saint of capitalism. Berkeley Rep Theatre production. Runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 & 7 pm thru 12/21. Berkeley Rep Theatre, 2025 Addison St at Shattuck, downtown Berkeley. Info/res: 845-4700.
**for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf** by Ntozake Shange. Shange's award-winning choreopoem performed by a multiracial ensemble. A triumphal


# New Year's Eve is NOW

**Dance party with 5-woman band**

**Watch Out** performing original high energy rock & roll with a taste of the blues



**9pm-2am**
**New Years Eve,**
**Monday, December 31**
ILWU Union Hall, 4 Berry St
at Second St in San Francisco (nr China Basin)

Tickets at the Door: $50 Generous Feminist, $25 Regular
$15 Limited Income; for work exchange call 648-6714

DIRECTIONS TO ILWU HALL: From Market St take 2nd St all the way to the waterfront where it ends at Berry St. Turn left on Berry St, then immediately turn left into the ILWU parking lot. Look for NOW rounds to guide you.

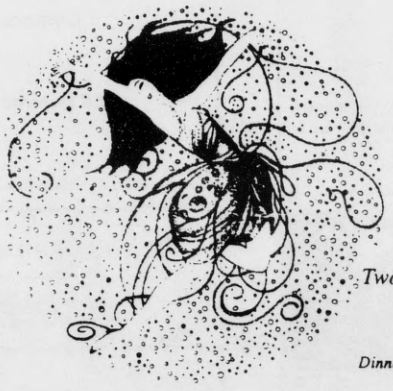
WELCOME ALL WOMEN
WELCOME ALL LESBIANS
WELCOME ALL FEMINISTS
WELCOME CLEAN AND SOBER WOMEN
WELCOME NOW MEMBERS AND GUESTS

NOW NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

Outdoor smoking gazebo • Chem-free dance hall
Free refreshments, midnight noisemakers, door prizes
Easy bus access line 42 or 15 OWL • Free parking

*BACW CELEBRATES!*

# NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE



***Monday, December 31, 1990***
***7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.***

***At the Miyako Hotel***
***1625 Post Street***
***Japan Center, San Francisco***

*Two ballrooms --the musical style of your choice:*
*City Swing Band and Disco Room*

*Dinner : Herbed Chicken Breast, London Broil, or Vegetarian Plate*
*No-host bar. Formal attire optional.*
*Celebrating our tenth year of events for women.*

**Accommodations at the Miyako Hotel are being offered to BACW members and guests at the special rate of $98 per night. The deadline for reservations is December 20. Call the Miyako Hotel at 922-3200.**

**Tickets will be sold through December 26. No tickets available at the door. Sorry, no refunds.**

**Members $65, Non-Members $75.**

**New Year's Eve Dinner Dance Reservation**

Please reserve _____member tickets at $65 and _____ non-member tickets at $75.
Please indicate membership number for each member ticket purchased _____
My check made out to BACW for $_____ is enclosed.
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**Laughing Wild** by Christopher Durang. Farce about two New Yorkers trying to cope with day-to-day life—paranoia, bad sex, Mother Teresa, abortion, good sex... Phoenix Theatre production. Thru 12/16 at 8 pm. $10. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St, SF. Info/res: 621-4423.

**Cat's Paw** by William Mastrosimone. Drama about a radical environmentalist, his hostage, & a TV news reporter. North Beach Repertory production. Thru 12/6, Thurs-Sun at 8 pm. Tix $12. North Beach Rep Theatre, Third Floor, The Cannery, 2801 Leavenworth, SF. Info/res: 928-4860.

**Juan Darien** by Julie Taymor & Elliot Goldenthal. Cross-cultural blend of music, theatre, dance & puppetry. Musical fable based on the short story by Uruguayan writer Horacio Quiroga about a jaguar cub who is magically transformed into a boy by the love & compassion of a bereaved mother. Carole Shorenstein Hays Presents production. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter St, SF. Tues-Thurs at 8 pm, Wed matinees at 2 pm, thru 12/16. Tix: $34-$22. For info/res: 243-9001, 441-0919.

**My Star!** (A Saga of the Yiddish Actor), comedy by Paul E. Richards. Pacific Jewish Theatre production. Thru 12/9. 820 Heinz Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: 849-0498.

**Tongues** by Sam Shephard & Joseph Chaiken. A howl into life from the threshold of death. Hardback Theater production. Runs thru 12/16. Fri & Sat at 8:30 pm, Sun at 7:30 pm at Eight Street Studio, 2525 8th St, Berkeley. Tix: $9 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. No one turned away for lack of funds. Info/res: 649-7456.

**A Bologna Christmas** by Fratelli Bologna & Martin Higgins. A charmingly blasphemous yuletide tale featuring the Webers, a hilarious, hyper-typical American family, as the prepare their familiar yet bizarre Christmas Eve rituals. A Climate Theater production at Life on the Water Theater, Ft Mason Ctr Bldg B, SF. Runs Wed-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm (no Sun matinee on 12/2) thru 12/23. Tix $12 Wed; $15 Thurs, Fri & Sun; $17 Sat. Limited number of front-row sofa seats available for $3 above regular ticket prices. Preview tix are $8. 12/6 performance is a beneift for Toys for Tots, donations of new toys are requested. 12/13 performance is a benefit for Project Open Hand & the AIDS Foundation Food Bank, donations of canned & packaged food are requested. Info/res: 776-8999.

**Shadow of a Man** by Cherrie Moraga, directed by Maria Irene Fornes. World premiere bilingual production, in Spanish & English. Play explores the intimacy of heterosexual Chicano males in a love triangle between a man, his wife & a ghost figure from the past; an examination of what lies under the thin veil of 'machismo' in Chicano culture. Eureka Theatre Co & BRAVA! For Women in the Arts production. Runs Wed-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm, thru 12/9 at Eureka Theatre Company, 2730 16th St at Harrison, SF. Tix: $15 Wed, Thurs & Sun; $17 Fri; $19 Sat. Previews $13; Info/res: 558-9898.

**Goin' A Buffalo** by Ed Bullins. A 1960s inner-city hustler fantasy. BMT Theater production. Runs Fri & Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 3:30 pm, thru 12/23 at BMT Theater, 3629 San Pablo Ave, Emeryville. Info/res: 654-6172.

**Okal's Magic!**, live theatre show featuring fantastic sleight-of-hand & exciting illusions. Fri-Sat at 7 pm thru 12/29 at Cannery Theatre, 2801 Leavenworth St at Beach, SF. Tix $10 adults, $6 kids under 12. Info/res: 441-5560.

# RESOURCE GUIDE

## AIDS RESOURCES

**ACT UP/SF** meets Thurs, 7:30 pm, at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. Direct action & civil disobedience to end the AIDS epidemic & the injustices around it. Call 563-0724 for info. WA.

**ACT-UP/Golden Gate** meets Mon at 7:30 pm at 347 Dolores St, SF. Assisted access available. Call 252-5689 or 255-0803 for more info.

**ACT-UP Eastbay** meets Wed 7:30 pm. First Unitarian Church of Oakl, 14th & Castro, Oakl. Info: 420-8864.

**New Friends:** a group made up of people with AIDS who help those who have been newly diagnosed. Info: 928-5352.

**AIDS/HIV Nightline:** Provides nighttime emotional support for people concerned about AIDS or HIV infection. Run by SF Suicide Prevention, the Nightline is staffed by trained volunteers, Mon-Fri 9 pm-1 am, Sat & Sun 5 pm-5 am. Call 668-2437 or 1-(800) 273-2437.

**AIDS Trials at NIAD/NIH:** the National Institutes of Health recruits volunteers for inpatient & outpatient studies of new drugs & vaccines. For info call 1-800-243-7644. If you're accepted & enroll in a study, all travel expenses, & medical care provided at NIH, is free.

**Benefits Orientation** for Persons with AIDS & ARC: SF AIDS Foundation holds 2 wkly orientations for persons with AIDS & ARC on how to access governmental financial assistance programs, & what social services are available in SF. Info: 864-5855, 9am-6 pm, Mon-Fri.

**People with AIDS-SF:** sponsors educational forums & newsletter, addresses research, public policy & other issues. Info: 553-2560.

**Women's Support Group:** open to any women diagnosed with AIDS. Info: Shanti Project 777-CARE.

**Youth & Children's** Groups: ongoing support for those diagnosed, & for children of people with AIDS, divided by age categories. Info: Shanti Project 777-CARE.

**BAY (Bay Area Youth) Positives**: Support group for adolescents & young adults dealing with HIV. Group helps minimize the stress felt among young people who are HIV+. Free. Spons by AIDS Health Project. 7 pm at 1855 Folsom St at 15th,. SF. Room 521. For mtg days & other info contact Julie Graham 386-4615 or Scott Walker 821-8764.

**Gay Male Drop-In Group:** for alcohol/substance abuse & HIV concerns. Tues 7-9 pm at Operation Concern/Operation Recovery. Intake appt: 626-7000.

**Bay Area HIV Support** & Education Services of Black & White Men Together/Men of All Colors Together (BAHSES-BWMT/MACT) deals with issues & problems surrounding AIDS & its impact on the people of color communities. Info: 252-1902.

**Marin AIDS Support** Network: emotional support for persons with AIDS or ARC & their loved ones, outreach & education. Info: 457-AIDS.

**The AIDS Screening Clinic** at District Health Ctr #2, 1301 Pine St nr Ellis, SF. Call for appt: 621-4858.

**ARC Drop-In Group** for people with AIDS-related conditions or symptomatic HIV disease. Support, info, stress management. Thurs 6-8 pm. Health Ctr #1, 3850 17th St btwn Noe & Sanchez, SF. Room 201. Info: 626-7000.

**HIV+** Drop-in Group for men & women testing positive. Thurs 6-8 pm, free. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Info: 626-7000.

**AIDS Health Project** offers prevention programs; mental health, substance abuse & antibody counseling; AIDS health professional training program & a guide to AIDS Research. Info: 1855 Folsom St, Ste 506, SF. 476-6430.

**Third World People with AIDS/**ARC meet in Oakl. Info: AIDS Project of the Eastbay 420-8181

**SF Kaiser Permanente** Med Ctr offers HIV + groups (for gay men, for non-gay men & women); ARC groups (for gay men, for women & non-gay men); groups for parents whose children have AIDS; for caretakers (lovers, spouses, friends & others) of people with AIDS/ARC; & for those grieving after losing someone to AIDS. Also offers HIV forums on a variety of issues. Free, open to all Kaiser members, their families & friends. For info on drop-in groups call Marsha Blachman, LCSW 596-6305; for info on ongoing, closed support groups call Lee Horzempa, LCSW 596-6344, for info on HIV Education forums call Joe De Milia 596-6848.

**Kaiser Movement & Exercise:** ongoing 10-session, non-intensive therapeutic movement & exercise class for people with AIDS/HIV & other immunodeficiecies, spons by CCCATF & Kaiser Permanente. Wed 3-4 pm, $10/10 wks. Stanwell Bldg, 1634 Newell Ave, Walnut Creek. Drop in OK ($2/session). Info: 943-2771.

**Kaiser Patients Advocacy Union** (KPAU): consumer activist group assists HIV-positive Kaiser patients, family & friends who are having problems with medical care & services at Kaiser. Newsletter, mtgs, confidential hotline, & lobbying—call 621-3409.

**Gazebo at Davies Medical Ctr:** an educational ctr for PWAs & HIVers. Get help interpreting lab work; info on clinical trials; nutrition, breathing & body awareness; legal advise (wills, living trusts, power of attorney) & more. For info & calendar of events call 565-6369, Mon-Fri 10 am-4 pm. Castro & Duboce Sts, SF.

**SF AIDS Foundation** Client Services Dept provides a variety of direct services for persons with AIDS & ARC: financial benefits counseling, info & referral, advocacy, women's & people of color services, emergency housing, food bank & more. For info call 864-5855.

**Face to Face/Sonoma County** AIDS Network: counseling & in-home care for people with AIDS & ARC in Sonoma County. Also support groups. Info: Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network, POB 1599, Guerneville, CA 95446; or call (707) 887-1581.

**The AIDS/ARC Blood Fund** for people with AIDS is available by calling the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Demo Club's Blood Fund Coordinator, 863-6761.

**Service Thru Touch** offers massage for PWAs who are hospitalized, or live in Shanti residences or Coming Home Hospice. Massage referral for PWAs also available, at very low SL fee. Info: 664-6904 Tues, Wed & Fri, 12:30-3:30 pm.

**Free Chiropractic Clinic** for people with AIDS. Info: 282-4622.

**Open Hand** delivers hot meals to people with AIDS/ARC. No one refused service because of inability to pay. A doctor's report of a diagnosis of AIDS or ARC is all that is necesssary to receive service. Info: 558-0600.

**The Family Link** provides housing for friends & family of people with AIDS who are visiting from outside the Bay Area. Info: 346-0770.

**ARIS Project**: emotional, practical wkly support groups for people w/AIDS, ARC, HIV pos., & their loved ones. Also volunteer training. Call (408) 370-3272.

Contra Costa County AIDS Task Force offers emotional & practical support to people with AIDS/ARC, their families, friends & loved ones. 2326 Boulevard Circle, Walnut Creek. PWA & HIV-impacted support groups, outreach & education. For info or to volunteer: 932-AIDS.

San Mateo County AIDS Project: spons by the Dept of Health Services. Info: AIDS Project Coordinator 573-2588.

**AIDS Ministry of MCC-SF:** provides support to persons with AIDS & other life-threatening & chronic illnesses, their family & friends. Support groups, monthly potlucks dinners, healing services, spiritually-based training for caretakers & more. Info: 863-4434. 150 Eureka St, SF.

**The Ctr for Attitudinal Healing** supplements traditional health care by providing an environment in which both adults & children may actively participate in healing of life-threatening illnesses. Free support groups are offered to people with AIDS & ARC, to their families & friends, & to the "worried well." Pre-reg required. Info: 435-5022.

**PAWS** (Pets Are Wonderful Support) provides direct services so people with AIDS/ARC can keep their pets. Also places pets in foster & permanent homes as needed. Info: 824-4040.

**SHARE** (Special Human & Animal Relationships) program of Marin Humane Society offers services to Marin County PWAs with pets. Info: 883-4621.

**The Godfather Service Fund**: provides care packages (toiletry, bathrobes, slippers & teddy bear) to people with AIDS/ARC/HIV in 12 SF hospitals. To volunteer or make contributions call 565-4433 or write 584 Castro St #225, SF 94114.

**The Rest Stop Support Center** is a place for and by people with AIDS/ARC/HIV+, and their friends. Drop-in for some coffee & conversation. Ctr sponsors attitudinal healing support groups & activities. Art wkshops, social gatherings & more. For group mtg times & other info call 621-REST. All events are free.

**Shanti Project** offers emotional, practical & residential support to people with AIDS, their friends, families & loved ones. 525 Howard St, SF. PWA Support Groups: daytime—Tues, Thurs, Fri; eves—Tues, Wed, Thurs. Friends, Family & Lovers Support Group: Wed & Thurs eves; Coping with Loss & Grief Support Group—Thurs eve. For info/location, or to volunteer as an emotional or practical support counselor (training provided) call 777-CARE.

**Ellipse**-Peninsula AIDS Services offers 1-1 & group emotional support for persons with AIDS & ARC, their families & significant others. Also info/referrals; case management/coordination & attendant care services. Extensive volunteer activities available. Info: 574-6978.

**AIDS Interfaith** Support Committee of Sonoma County: persons of any faith tradition welcome (707) 762-0107.

**AIDS Interfaith Network** of the Eastbay: monthly healing services. 2nd Sun, 3 pm, Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 3755 13th St at Park, Oakl. Info: 523-5011.

**AIDS Interfaith of Marin**: Diverse group of clergy & spiritual seekers who serve persons with AIDS, their families, friends, loved ones & caregivers. Info: Rev Dave Martin 457-1129 or write to 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, #12, San


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**The Center:** provides compassionate support services for perople with AIDS/ARC/HIV & their caregivers in Alameda County. Day Center (meals, housing referrals, therapeutic massage, social activities, laundry & shower facilities, support group & van transportation); Counseling (advocacy, referrals, in-depth psychotherapy); Volunteer Services (provide assistance with cooking, cleaning, shopping, transportation, etc); Food Bank (groceries & nutritional supplements). 3421 ML King Jr. Way, Oakland 94609. Info: 655-3435.

**Van Transportation Program** for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV in Alameda County. Transport to & from healthcare appts. Info: The Center 655-3435.

**Interreligious Coalition** on AIDS, a network of AIDS caregivers from the SF religious community, offers a directory of AIDS-sensitive clergy from a diverse range of religious traditions and ethnic backgrounds. Info: Bob Nelson 558-7066.

**Contra Costa County AIDS** Interfaith Network. Info: 827-2960.

**Kairos House**: resource ctr in the Castro for caregivers of those affected by the AIDS epidemic. Helps caregivers deal with emotional issues. Gives guidance in caring for one's own mind, body & spirit. Support groups, wkshops, social activities, information sharing, counseling. Info: 861-0877.

**Immune Enhancement Program** offers treatment for AIDS/ARC & asymptomatic HIV+ using traditional Chinese herbs selected for anti-viral & immune enhancing properties. Program is directed by Michael Young & Louis Coll and run in cooperation with UCSF & the Institute for Traditional Medicine. Also offers work exchange program, free monthly acupuncture sessions & quarterly research reports. 3450 16th St, SF. Info: 252-8711.

**AIDS Project of the East Bay** sponsors support groups throughout the Bay Area for people with AIDS/ARC. Info: 834-8181.

**Parents Support Group:** for parents of children living with AIDS/ARC. Open to parents with children of any age, facilitated by two parents of a person with AIDS. Issues that arise for parents can be difficult to deal with alone, come talk to other parents who've been there. Oakland location. Spons by AIDS Project of the East Bay. Info: 834-8181.

**Lovers, Friends, & Family** of People with AIDS/ARC Group meets in Berkeley. Mon 6-8 pm. Info: AIDS Project of the East Bay 834-8181.

**Project Inform:** for info on experimental drug treatment call the hotline: 558-9051 (local), (800) 334-7422 (statewide), (800) 822-7422 out of state. Office: 558-8669. Group publishes newsletter. Archives open to the public by appt.

**SF Public Library** for the Blind & Print Handicapped offers audio tapes & records to SF residents who can't read print due to physical illness or disability. Unabridged reading material & the equipment needed to play it provided free. All exchanges can be done by mail. Info: 558-5035.

**Couples Group** for people with AIDS & their partners. Deal with improving communication, problem-solving & other relationship issues. 6 wk groups start every other month. For info call AIDS Health Project 476-6430

**Couples Support Group** spons by Shanti Project. A group for couples where one or more partners has AIDS. Info: 777-CARE.

**Berkeley HIV + Support Group**: free, confidential, professionally-facilitated group meets wkly in eves. Limited membership. Low-cost individual counseling also available for PWA/ARC/HIV+ Info: Pacific Ctr 841-6224.

**Hayward HIV+** & AIDS Support Groups spons by Project Eden. Groups for PWAs, HIV+ people, their lovers, friends & families. Mon & Wed. Info: 887-0566.

**HIV Positive Veterans**: support group for vets in any stage of HIV infection. Monday eves, free. Vet's Ctr, nr 19th St BART, Oakland. Info: Mike Rankin 273-7331.

**HIV + Lesbians** Support Group: spons by Iris Project. Call 864-2364 for info.

**San Joaquin AIDS Foundation:** 4410 North Pershing Ave, Ste C-5, Stockton. PO Box 8277, Stockton, CA 95208. (209) 476-8533. 1st & 3rd Mon of each month: "Gather Round" support group for the HIV+, persons with AIDS/ARC; 6:30-8 pm at SJAF office. 2nd & 4th Tues: "Hand to Hand" support group for SJAF volunteers, 7 pm at SJAF office. Every Wed: "Stockton Connection" gay rap group discusses safe sex, AIDS, health issues & lifestyle management.

**Caregivers Call-In:** for health professionals & volunteers. Provides free telephone consulting on personal issues related to taking care of people with AIDS. Mon-Fri 7-10 pm. Call 882-2411. Spons by the CareGivers Project.

**Home Care Wkshops:** 17-hr wkshops offered by Home Care Companions, a nonprofit organization. For friends/family taking care of HIV patients in the home. Expand your knowledge of home nursing, social services, legal, medical & psychological issues. Info: 824-3269.

**Men's Couples Group:** focus on the stress of coping with a partners' illness or anxieties. Mon eves, 7:30-9 pm, free. Spons by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. Info: David Hoefer, LCSW or Bettye Travis 834-8181.

**Lovers, Family & Friends** of People with AIDS/ARC. Operation Concern's AIDS Family Project offers individual, couple & family counseling; plus support groups for the loved ones of people with AIDS/ARC. Info: 626-7000.

**AIDS Legal Referral Panel:** offers free simple wills & powers of attorney for people with AIDS or ARC, & other AIDS related legal services; including Insurance/Employee Benefits Clinic. 114 Sansome St, Ste 1103, SF 94104. Info: 291-5454.

**AIDS Legal Services** for people with AIDS or ARC or who are HIV positive in Santa Clara County. Help preparing wills & power of attorney. Free or SL fee services. Spons by Santa Clara County Bar Assoc Law Foundation. Info: (408) 293-3135.

**PWA/PWARC Switchboard:** staffed by people with AIDS & ARC. Please call if you're in need of advice, looking for info, confused & anxious or depressed. We want to help. Staffed Mon-Fri 9 am-6 pm, Sat 11 am-5 pm. At other times leave message. Info: 861-7309.

**AIDS Support Group** for people with AIDS, spons by St Mary's Hospital & Med Ctr in SF. Free. Info: Kevin Rist, MD 750-5815 or Daniel Ostrow 750-5733.

**AIDS Mastery Workshops:** transformative & healing weekends. No PWA or PWARC turned away for lack of funds. Info: Scott 821-4788.

**Shanti Project Residences:** Shanti provides low-cost, longterm housing to people with AIDS. Each of 12 residence houses are home to 3-6 people. Private bedrooms, all other living spaces shared. Resident Advocates assist with home health care, transportation, medical intervention of social services. Residents pay ¼ of their monthly income as rent. For info on renting housing or to make a donation: Shanti Residence Care rogram 777-CARE.

**Peter Claver Community** offers housing to persons with AIDS or ARC who are homeless or unable to secure stable housing. Info: 563-9228. Spons by Catholic Charities AIDS/ARC program.

**JFCS AIDS Project:** Jewish Family & Childrens' Service offers services to Jewish people with AIDS & ARC, their loved ones & families: counseling, case management, PWA/PWARC support group, emergency financial assistance, meal delivery, "buddies", spiritual gatherings, & support for out-of-town family members. Also speakers' bureau. Coordinator: Jody Reiss 561-1241. 1600 Scott St, SF 94115.

**Emergency Health Fund** spons by Catholic Charities: provides funds for PWAS/PWARC with incomes of less than $1000/month, to help in emergency situations. Info: 864-7400, ask for the AIDS/ARC Division.

**Asian AIDS Project** offers info & education to individuals & groups in SF. Information can be given in English, Cantonese, Mandarin & Vietnamese. 300 4th St, (corner of Folsom & 4th), Ste 401, SF. Info: Lori Lee 227-0946.

**Group for Gay Asian** & Pacific Islander Men—Thurs 7:30-9 pm. Spons by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. Info: Kiki Ching, LCSW 558-2507.

**Diablo Valley AIDS Ctr:** the only drop-in center for people with AIDS in Contra Costa County. Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 am-9 pm. Info: 686-DVAC or write PO Box 139, Concord CA 94522.

**AIDS Information BBS:** (415) 626-1246 24 hours. 2400/1200/300 baud. Sysop Ben Gardiner. Free, all welcome. Statistics from Atlanta & SF displayed, updated regularly. Sample Q & A about AIDS, based on clinic & phone exchange experience. Mail send/receive on AIDS only. Library of hard-to-find & out-of-print matter here for downloading from screen. Uploads by appt on another line. Voice phone: 626-1245. Calls to this BBS never disturb anyone.

**Documentation of AIDS Issues** & Research (DAIR) maintains collection of clippings from magazines, newspapers & other sources on AIDS & related subjects from the 70s to the present. Hrs: 11 am-4 pm on Sat, and by appt. Info: 552-1665.

**Move on AIDS** trains caregivers to protect their own back as they help people with AIDS move effectively in and around their bed. 2½ hr wkshop teaches body mechanics, transfer skills, exercises to teach PWA/PWARCs. Info: 648-4045.

**SF Healing Circle**: supportive space for anyone on a path of self-healing & love. Meets Thurs eves, 7:30-10 pm at SF Dance Theatre, 60 Brady St, SF (btwn 12th & Valencia, across from Zuni Cafe). Info: Gregg 863-2334.

**Food for Thought**: AIDS food program for people with AIDS & ARC in Sonoma County. Free groceries, sundries. For info, or to volunteer or donate, write PO Box 1357, Guerneville, CA 95446 or call (707) 887-1647.

**Gay Rescue Mission** operates drop-in ctr/soup kitchen for people with AIDS or HIV or who are in high-risk groups. Also Twelve Step programs, emergency food, clothing & care. Info: 863-4882.

**AIDS Healing Wkshop:** well-established, free wkly discussion group built around the question, "What have you been doing for yourself that represents healing for you?" Focus on healing methods, techniques & alternatives. Open to anyone dealing with the AIDS virus. Thurs nights, 7-9 pm in USF campus ministry lounge, Golden Gate Ave btwn Masonic Parker, SF. Facilitated by Glenna Morea & Richard McCormack. Info: 567-7126.

**HIV Negative Support Groups**: testing negative is great, but can present problems of its own. Some become so fearful that they give up all sex; others are others are overwhelmed by the pain of watching their friends & lovers die. Get support to deal with "survivor guilt" and others issues surrounding testing negative. Reply with name, address & phone number to Groups, c/o Pierre, PO Box 0884, SF CA 94143-0884. All replies are confidential.

**We've Now Got The Time:** group for bright, gregarious, humorous guys with HIV who are "early retired" andnow have time to meet other nice guys for walks in the park, museum trips, concerts, lunch, etc. For info call 564-6112.

**HIV + *Social Group*** meets every 3rd Sat of the month. Diamond Heights condo, SF. 7-10 pm. Info: 824-3370.

**AIDS/ARC/HIV** + Social Group for men. Meets Wed 6-9 pm in the Castro area. Info: Michael Smith 550-1957.

**Postives Being Positive:** peer support group for people who have tested positive to HIV. Ongoing, wkly mtgs in private homes. Spons by the AIDS Health Project. No fee. Info: 476-3902.

**POW** (Positive Opportunities for Wellness) Support Group for HIV+, ARC or AIDS wonderful people. Thurs 7:30-9:30 pm, free, donations accepted. Spiritual, mental & emotional sharing for self-healing in a friendly environment. Refreshments served. Spons by the Baird Institute. Info/res: Randy Shepard 285-3561.

**Soul Ventures**: a social/networking service supporting the Bay Area HIV/PWA community. Includes dating service & social events. For free brochure & other info call 543-2520.

**The Living Room** (Revival Inc): a social club for people with AIDS, ARC & HIV+ & for all who are concerned & care. Not a support group, not a bar, but an alternate social setting for those seeking a quality atmosphere. Wheelchair Accessible. 4035 18th ST at Castro (next to Hot 'n Hunky). Call 252-1150 for hours & other info.

**Bisexual & Heterosexual Men's** HIV Group meets Wed. Free. Spons by SF AIDS Foundation. Info: Christopher Alexander 864-5855, ext 2511.

**Community Spirit Art Program** (CSAP): a grassroots group centered in the lesbian & gay community. Presents art exhibits, performances & public symposiums centering on the theme of art as a healing resource during the AIDS crisis. For info on current activites contact CSAP, Box 42, 2370 Market St, SF 94114

**STOP AIDS** Mtgs for gay & bisexual men. Meet 12-15 other guys for a one-time, free, informal mtg to talk about safe sex (whether you're a beginner or have lots of experience), coping with the epidemic, & what you can do to help end it. Evenings & wkend mtgs. Call Randy or Buck at STOP AIDS Project for reg/info: 621-7177.

**Healing Alternatives Foundation** (HAF) maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club offers substantial savings on products aimed at improving the health of PWAs/HIV+, including vitamins, minerals, herbals and more. Payment accepted thru AIDS Emergency Fund & Catholic Charities. Volunteers receive addt'l discounts on products. Hrs: Tues-Fri, noon-6 pm, Sat noon-5 pm. 1748 Market St at Valencia, SF. Info: 626-2316.

**Passive Immunotherapy (PATH):** AIDS maintenance therapy in which plasma from health HIV+ donors is given to recipients with AIDS/ARC. For info about PATH write the PATH Project, Passive Immunotherapy Foundation, 1748 Market St, SF 94102 or call 626-8455.

**Visual AID:** Artists for AIDS Relief: call 391-9663 for info. 530 Bush St, Ste 403, SF 94108.

**HIV Positive Lesbians**: support group spons by the Iris Project. Break thru isolation, learn new skills, get info, discover alternatives. Get assistance in maintaining sobriety. Call 864-2364 for intake appt/info. 333 Valencia St, SF, Ste 222.

**Women with HIV Concerns:** free, confidential counseling available thru Iris Project. Call Nehoma 864-2364 for an appt/info.

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3320 GRAND AVENUE, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

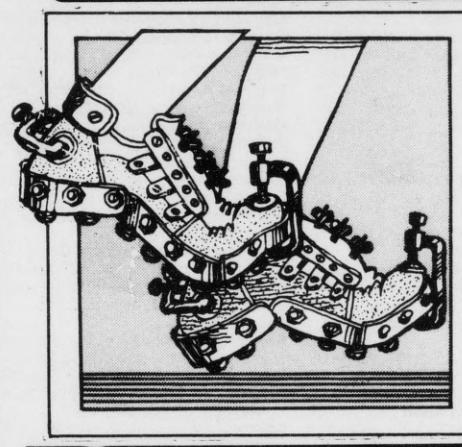

## YOUTH RAP GROUPS

**YOUNG MEN'S GROUP**
Friday Nights
MCC Church in the Castro
150 Eureka Street
7 - 9:00 pm
Call John for details, 626-7000

**YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP**
Monday Nights
The Women's Building
3543 18th Street
7 - 9:00 pm
Call Beth for details, 531-4612

**Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC)** sponsors social/ recreational activities for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth 23 and under. Help plan events at our November 11th meeting. Call **531-4612** for details, for our November calendar or for more information about LYRIC.

L Y R I C

# OUCH.

Even the finest footwear can feel like hardware if your feet are in need of medical attention.

When your feet feel good, all of you feels good. So give them the professional attention they deserve.

**Arlene F. Hoffman, DPM, PhD**
Podiatric Medicine, Sports Medicine, Foot Surgery
**2300 California (at Webster) • SF • 346-2400 • WA**

YOU'RE NOT ALONE.

THE AIDS HEALTH PROJECT

476-6430

- Information
- Support
- Referrals

Funded by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

AIDS/ARC/HIV: support group: emotional support, benefits counseling, education & info. Thurs at 5:30 pm. SF AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 864-5855.

**Grief Support Group** for people, family & friends having lost a special person, significant other or life partner to AIDS or related illness. Ongoing, confidential grief support group spons by Vesper Hospice. Mon eves, 7-8:30 pm. 311 MacArthur Ave, San Leandro. Info: Nancy Sobonya 632-4390 (days).

**Self-Healing Wkshop:** ongoing workshops open to people who are HIV positive & people who have AIDS/ARC. Caregivers, friends & lovers are welcome. Focus on meditative & stress management techniques, with discussion centering around the question, "What have you been doing for yourself that represents healing for you?" Eclectic approach, participants share ideas. Spons by AIDS Health Project. Info: Erik Wheaton 476-3900. Wkshop facilitated by Richard McCormack. Mondays, 7-9 pm, Davies Medical Ctr, SF. In the Gazebo Room.

**Federal Benefits Seminars:** twice-monthly seminar spons by the Client Services Dept of SF AIDS Foundation, for federal employees with AIDS or ARC. Focus is on the benefits package available to federal employees who are currently employed, as well as those considering separation. The hour-long seminar is held 3rd Thurs of the month at 11 am & 4th Thurs at 5 pm, and is led by a rep from the Dept of Health & Human Services. At SF AIDS Fdn Client Services Office, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF, 6th floor. Info/res: call the on-duty social worker 864-5855, pre-reg by phone is required.

**Free Tax Assistance** to Persons with AIDS & ARC, offered by SF AIDS Foundation. Trained volunteers from TAX AID program help you with your 1989 federal & state tax returns. To qualify an individual must have earned $16,000 or less, with no more than $2,000 for each family member. For info call 864-5855 and ask for the on-duty social worker.

**PEN American Ctr** Grant Fund provides assistance to writers & editors with AIDS: $500-$1000 grants. Writers do not have to be members of PEN, but must be published writers or produced playwrights, or editors. Writers will be asked to submit samples of their works, and editors, a professional curriculum vitae. Applications for grant money are reviewed every 6 weeks, small awards may be available more quickly. For info/application call (212) 334-1660; for donations send to: PEN AIDS Fund, PEN American Ctr, 568 Broadway, NY NY 10012.

**Mental Health Grand Rounds** spons by UCSF AIDS Health Project as a public service to the AIDS caregivers community. Monthly series educates professionals & others in various psychosocial issues related to the AIDS epidemic & HIV infection. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Info: 476-6430.

## ► ADDICTION RECOVERY

**Iris Project** (division of the Women's Institute for Mental Health) provides help for women wanting to achieve & maintain sobriety; and is one of the few agencies providing services specifically for lesbians. Groups include: early, middle & ongoing recovery; women of color; HIV + lesbians; lesbian relationships in later recovery; & an education group. Individual counseling provided. For info/intake appt call 864-2364 (for middle or later recovery groups) or drop in at orientation (Mon-Thurs at 3 pm) for early recovery group & individual counseling. 333 Valencia St, SF. Ste 222.

Women's Alcoholism Ctr provides residential, outpatient & educational services for women, children & families. 2261 Bryant St, SF. Info: 282-8900.

**Smith House** detox center for women. Six-bed, non-medical alcoholic detox facility designed by women for women, spons by Haight Ashbury Free Clinics. Info: 626-6763.

**Orchid Women's Recovery Ctr**: 12-bed, residential, peer-oriented, alcohol program for women, and women with children (ages 2-12). Services include women's issues, family & alumni groups, recovery & re-entry planning, alcohol-related education, follow-up-groups and more. 1342 E 27th St, SF. Info: 535-0611.

**GROW** (Gay & Recovering Our Worth), a program of Archway/San Mateo: provides drug & alcohol counseling to San Mateo's gay/lesbian community. Info: 347-0473.

**Mills-Peninsula Hospital** Chemical Dependency Ctr, largest drug & alcohol outpatient treatment ctr in the Bay Area, offers specialized lesbian & gay treatment services. 12-week, medically-supervised individual treatment program. Confidential. Two blocks from BART in Daly City. Info: 696-5544.

**Acceptance Place** provides residential drug & alcohol treatment for gay men. 673 San Jose, SF. Info: 695-1708.

**Baker New Place** provides residential drug & alcohol treatment for men & women who are HIV positive. 1375 Grove St, SF. Info: 346-6193.

**Secular Organizations for Sobriety** (SOS), alternative grassroots support group for recovering alcoholics & addicts. SOS appeals especially to persons who may be uncomfortable with the "Higher-Power" concepts of more traditional religious or 12-Step groups. Info: SF—255-1622, EB—534-8638), No Calif—332-1418.

**AJIRA** (Addicted Jews in Recovery Anonymous). Wkly mtgs for AA, NA & OA members at SF Jewish Community Ctr, 3200 California St, SF. For times & other info: Claire Silver 346-6040 ext 240.

**Dianic Witch Coven** for lesbians working on recovery. Info: write Sami, PO Box 191294, SF CA 94119.

**Adult Children of Alcoholics** ongoing & time-limited therapy groups at the Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic. SL, no one turned away for lack of funds. Info/intake appt: 552-7230

**Lesbian/Gay People of Color AA** mtgs at San Antonio Community Development District House, 2228 East 15th St, Oakland. Sat 10:30 am. Info or to confirm time/mtg place, call 536-1715.

**Alanon for Black Gay & Lesbian** ACAs: Thurs 7:30 pm, Bethany United Methodist Church Social Hall, 1268 Sanchez St at Clipper (enter on Clipper, 1st mtg on 5/10). Info: 995-2581.

**Children of Alcoholics/Addicts** Group for Children of Color. Thurs 4-30-5:30 pm. Build self-esteem, learn to express feelings in safe environment. SL fee to $5. ACCEPT, 1287 11th Ave at Irving, SF. Info: Mary Jayne 681-2500.

**Youth Prevention/Intervention Group** for adolescent drug & alcohol abusers: Thurs 6-7:30 pm, free. Family & individual counseling available. Info: ACCEPT 681-2500.

**Alanon/ACA Mtg** at Rest Stop for people dealing with AIDS/ARC or HIV+. See AIDS Resources or call 621-REST.

**Al-Anon for Gay Men and Women** meets Tues, 8 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, Bush & Gough Sts, SF. Al-anon is made up of people who have been deeply affected by alcoholism in a family member, lover or friend. Info/list of SF Al-Anon mtgs: 626-5633

**Lesbians & Gay Men Alanon** Family Group meets 8 pm in the Library at Cathedral House, California at Taylor, SF. Nonsmoking. Info: 626-5633. Call to confirm mtg place & time.

**Adult Children of Alcoholics** for Gay Men: Al-Anon Family Group meets Thurs, 8 pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 626-5633, call to confirm place & time.

ACA Gay/Lesbian 12 Step Mtg: Wed 8 pm, MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. For info on this & other ACA mtgs: 931-2262.

**Alanon for Lesbian Adult** Children of Alcoholics meets 6:30 pm, Bethany Methodist Church, corner of Clipper & Sanchez, SF. Info: 626-5633. Call to confirm place & time.

**The Recovery Project**: therapy group for co-dependent gay men meets wkly, 4-month commitment required. $20 fee, SL available. Spons by ODS (Orthodox Diocesan Services). Info: 563-8514.

**Our Common Welfare** Alanon Mtg: Thurs 6:30-7:45 pm at Dolores St Community Ctr, 208 Dolores nr 15th, SF. The goal of this mtg, which grew out of the "recovering from my racist attitudes" workshop at the 1990 Living Sober Conference, is to provide a safe place to talk about & explore racial attitudes within the framework of the 12-Step program.

**Friday Night Gay Men's** Step Study Alanon Family Group Mtg: (open) 8 pm, 217 Church St, SF. Info: Call to confirm place & time 626-5633.

**Lesbian Incest Survivors** in Recovery from Drug Addiction Group—see Incest & Battery.

**Overcoming Violent Behavior** Anonymous-SF: see Incest & Battery.

**Overeaters Anonymous** gay, lesbian, bisexual mtg (open to all). Sun eves 7-8:30 pm at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, Danvers & Caselli, SF.

**Men's Overeaters Anon** Mtg: every Wednesday. For info on OA meetings for gay/lesbians & others call OA Hotline: 821-4642.

**Gay Male Drop-in Group** for alcohol/substance abuse & HIV concerns, see AIDS Resources. Spons by Operation Concern/Operation Recovery.

**Drop-in Group** for gay men with substance abuse issues. Tues eves 7-9 pm. All gay men welcome. Info, support & referral regarding chemical dependency. Spons by Operation Concern. 1853 Market, SF. Info: 626-7000.

**Marijuana Anonymous**: Fri 7:30 pm, MCC-SF 150 Eureka St, SF. Rm 105.

**Fundamentalists Anonymous** support group: explore the experience of having once been a fundamentalist Christian with others who've been there, too. Call 832-2334.

**Quit Smoking Clinic:** 8-session courses for smokers who are serious about quitting. Led by ex-smokers. $30. Limited enrollment. Spons by SF Dept of Public Health. Info/res: 558-2444, 558-2226.

**Gay Men's Recovery Program** incorporating education, intensive group work & socializing. Info: Operation Recovery 626-7000.

**Marin Al-Anon** for gay men & women: Wed 8:30 pm. Info: 924-3430.

**Gay Men with Sexual Compulsive** Behavior: wkly group lasting approx 9 months. Focus on concerns relating to sexually compulsive behavior. Mon 5:30-6:30 pm at Operaton Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. For info/intake appt call 626-7000.

**Men Overcoming Sexual Compulsion**: ongoing self-help groups meets Fri eves in SF. Occasional openings available, 12-wk commitment. Info: Jay 239-0585.

**Sexual Compulsivity**: a group for lesbians. Gain a richer understanding & acceptance of sexual addiction issues. SF location. Info: SJ Kahn 532-8866, Nan Schlosberg 282-9831.

**For More Listings** under this category, see the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under the **"Recovery/Addiction Therapy/Support Groups"** heading.

**"Coming Out"—(formerly) East Germany's first gay feature returns to the Castro Theatre, part of Frameline's "Best of Festival" Dec 19.**

## ► ARCHIVES

**The Gay & Lesbian Historical** Society of Northern California collects, preserves & disseminates materials related to local gay & lesbian experience. Also sponsors public programs & wkshops on lesbian/gay history. 2940 16th St, SF. Info: 626-0980, or write: GLHSNC, PO Box 42126, SF, 94142. Hrs: Wed 6-9 pm, Sat 2-5 pm, you must call ahead before coming to Archives.

**Lesbian & Gay Books** & Magazines available at the Eureka Valley Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, 3555 16th St, SF. 3-wk loan. Hrs: Mon, Thurs, Fri 1-6 pm; Tues 10 am-6 pm; Wed 1-9 pm. Donations of lesbian & gay material, bequests or checks payable to the Gay & Lesbian Collection (SFPLGLC) are very welcome (and tax deductible). Info: 554-9445.

**Documentation of AIDS Issues** & Research (DAIR) maintains a collection of clippings from magazines, newspapers, & other sources on AIDS & related subjects, from the 70s to the present. Hrs: 10 am-4 pm Sat, and by appt. Info: 552-1665.

## ► CALL FOR ENTRIES

**AIDS: Keeping Women in Focus**. Call for contributions to the 1991 Women & AIDS Conference & Health Fair, 4/19-20/1991. Spons by the Fenway Community Health Ctr & the Bostom AIDS Consortium. Proposals which address the full range of women's experiences with HIV are welcome. Deadline: 12/1/90. Info: Women & AIDS Conference Coordinator, Fenway Community Health Ctr (617) 267-0900.

**Call for Manuscripts**. Seeking women's stories about the death of their mother, for an anthology to be published by Clothespin Fever Press in Fall 1991. Send completed manuscripts to Helen Vozenilek, PO Box 18, Berkeley, CA 94701. Deadline: 12/31.

**SF Film Society Golden Gate** Awards Competition Call for Entries: one of the oldest & most prestigious events of its kind. Entries are sought in 4 divisions: film & video, TV, Bay Area Filmmakers, and New Visions. For entry forms & eligibility guidelines write the Competition Coordinator, SF Film Society, 1560 Fillmore St, SF CA 94115. Awards include trophies & cash honoria.

**Call for Nominations**: American Library Association Gay & Lesbian Task Force seeks nominations for its 1991 Gay/Lesbian Book Awards. Not limited to American or English-language publications. Short statement describing why the book is being nominated must accompany the nomination. Any individual or group not affiliated with the publisher of the book may send nominations to the Gay/Lesbian Book Award Committee, c/o Adam L Schiff, Asst Science Librarian, University of Colorado at Boulder, Campus Box 184, Boulder, CO 80309-0184 for tax the Chair at (303) 492-2185. Deadline: 12/31/90.

**Butch-Fem Anthology:** Joan Nestle, co-founder of NY's Lesbian Herstory Archives, seeks submissions for an anthology exploring butch-fem identity & experience. Women who identify as butch or fem are invited to send poems, short stories, biographical moments, analytical comments, essays & photos for possible inclusion. Contemporary voices, as well as those from other generations, are welcome. Cassette recordings accepted. Anthology will be published by Alyson, and contributors will be paid. Info: Joan Nestle, 215 W 92nd St, NY NY 10025. Deadline: 1/91.

**1991 Lesbian Fiction Contest** spons by Spinsters Book Company. Entries must be submitted between 1/2/91 and 2/28/91. For guidelines & other info write Spinsters Book Company, PO Box 410687, SF CA 94141.

**GAWK**, a quarterly magazine of the arts, seeks submissions of art & writing relating to the experience of being gay, from all social/cultural/gender perspectives. Info: PO Box 31431 SF, CA 94131, 864-5434

**Bay Area Bisexual Network** Magazine seeks submissions from bisexuals on such toics as coming out, living with HIV, invisibility, alternative lifestyles, etc. Submissions from people of color, of age, different abilities, especially welcome. Fiction & poetry accepted. Send to: BABN, 2404 California St #24, SF 94115.

**Essays Sought for** *The Bisexual Feminist: Essays on Feminism & Bisexual Identity* to be published by Seal Press. Write Bi Book, PO Box 30645, Seattle, WA 98103-0645 for info. Deadline: 1/1991.

**Stories Wanted** for anthology of lesbians healing from loss, by break-up or death of lover. How did you get through it? Intent of book is to help others going thru loss. Entries must be typed, double-spaced, maximum of 15 pages. Send SASE to Anita Pace, 15206 Dickens St #9, Sherman Oaks, CA 94103. Deadline: 1/31.

**"Bonehead & Betty**: Stories of Butch Recovery, An Anthology". Tribas Publishing Group seeks submissins from lesbians for their current project. Also interested in stories & articles re femme roles & gender fuck. Send submissions to Ruby Fowler, 408 Haight St, SF CA 94117 or call 621-4366 for more info.

**Coupled Women & Women on Coupling:** Contributions sought for an anthology on marriage—pros & cons, political & social ramifications for lesbian & feminist culture. If you've been together for more than three years, have elected not to marry, or have considered this subject in detail & can elaborate on it in essay form, please contact Suzanne Sherman 267-5606 for more info.

**Lenguas Press** seeks erotica. Lenguas, a Latina feminist group, welcomes quality articles, stories, poems, & photos on erotica. English, Spanish or Portuguese submissions welcome. Open to all regardless of sexual preference or gender. Please send contributions/queries SASE to PO Box 151455, San Diego CA 92175.

**Writers & Visual Artists Sought:** A Different Light Bookstore accepting submissions from interested lesbian & feminist artists working in fiction-writing, spoken word performance and/or visual mediums. Send all inquiries (slides, proposals, stories) to the attention of Darrell-Lynn Alvarez, Series Coordinator, 489 Castro St, SF 94114.

## ► FUN & GAMES

**SF Walking Tours:** explore the waterfront by full moon, see the hidden gardens & stairways of Russian Hill, the murals of the Mission & embassies of Pacific Heights—free tours of SF neighborhoods by trained City Guides. For info or to arrange special group tours: 558-3981 Tues-Thurs 10 am-3 pm. Spons by Friends of the SF Public Library.

**SF Friends of the Urban Forest** Walking Tours: free tours thru 9 SF neighborhoods, designed to bring out relationship between the natural, historical & cultural of an area & its history, land development, architectural features, cultural influences & special events. Info: 543-5000. 512 2nd St, 4th fl, SF.

**Victorian & Edwardian** Pacific Heights Walk. Guided walking tour of the eastern Pacific Heights neighborhood. See surviving Victorian & pre-WWI era mansions, elaborate family homes, smaller row houses. 2-hr tour, routes change frequently. Guides stress various aspects of neighborhood. Sun, 12:30 pm. $3 gen'l, $1 srs & kids under 12. Spons by Heritage, the Foundation for SF's Architectural Heritage. Info: 441-3000.

**Cruisin' the Castro** from a historical perspective. Learn about SF lesbian/gay history from the Gold Rush to present. Led by longtime resident Trevor Hailey. Tour lasts approx 2 hrs. Meet Sundays (except 1st Sun of month) at 12:30 pm at Harvey Milk Plaza, SF. Info: 550-8110.

**Free Tours of Golden Gate Park**: walking tours with guides from Friends of Recreation & Parks, every wkend thru October. Tours last about 1½ hrs & are given rain or shine. Learn about the history & plant life of Strawberry Hill, Conservatory Valley & the other scenic areas which make Golden Gate Park so unique. Info/res: 221-1311.

## ► HEALTH

**Women's Clinic at District Health** Ctr#1 provides medical screening for cancer of the breast, thyroid & cervix, and STDs. Confidential. SL. 3850 17th St, SF. Info: 558-3905.

**PAP Tests at City Clinic:** also diagnosis, treatment & counseling, for vaginitis conditions, enteric diseases. Screening & referral for AIDS. Bilingual (Spanish) staff available. Confidential, low cost services. 356 7th St, SF. Info: 864-8100.

**Quan Yin Healing Arts Ctr:** low-cost, nonprofit clinic. Offers special services for people with HIV, fertility program for women & men who are trying to conceive. Also offers Chinese & American herbal preparations. Office hrs: Tues-Fri, noon-6 pm. Info: 861-4964.

**American College of Traditional** Chinese Medicine: professional teaching clinic offers Chinese herbal medicine, acupuncture, tui-na (Chinese physio-massage) & Chinese nutritional counseling. SL fee. MediCal accepted. 450 Connecticut St at 20th (on Potrero Hill), SF. Info: 282-9603.

**Lyon-Martin Women's Health** Sensitive primary health care for women by women, with emphasis on the health care needs of lesbians. Services include: gen'l medical care, gynecology, acupuncture, lesbian parenting, AIDS counseling & safe sex info (safe sex kits for women available). WA. SL. 2480 Mission nr 21st St, SF. Info/appt: 641-0220.

**Lesbian Clinic** of the Berkeley Women's Health Collective provides personal, affordable health care by lesbian practitioners. Gen'l medicine & chiropratic care to evaluate health needs. Gynecological, gen'l medical & mental health services available. Also feminist therapy referrals. Mon 7-9 pm. Call for appt: 843-6194. WA.

**Women's Cancer Resource Ctr**: info, support, resource & advocacy ctr for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & practitioners. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in. Support Groups: Drop-in Support Group, 1st & 3rd Wed of month, 6:30-8 pm; for women who have had cancer, facilitated by cancer survivors. Post-Treatment Women's Support Group: Mon; for women who have gone thru the initial crisis & have already completed their prescribed treatment, call to reserve space. Family & Friends of Women with Cancer group—1st & 3rd Thurs, 7:30-9 pm; meet men & women who are providing support to women with cancer. Spouses, lovers, friends, daughters, sons, mothers, fathers, & work colleagues are welcome; please call before coming to group. Support Group for Lesbian Partners & Friends of Lesbians with Cancer—every other Mon, 7:30-9 pm; focus on issues specific to lesbian health & illness. Group for Women with Recurrent Metastatic or ongoing Cancer—Fri; share experience of living with a life-changing illness; call ctr for info. Guided Imagery for Women with Cancer—group meets Sun. Teaches relaxation techniques, to reduce fear, create healing visualization, access inner sources of support; call ctr for info. 3023 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 548-WCRC, or write POB 11235, Oakl, 94611.

**The Wellness Community** provides free services to cancer patients & their families in SF & the East Bay. Psychological, emotional, social & educational support. Info: 933-0107 or write PO Box 4250, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

**Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic:** testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun 6-8 pm. HIV Antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 & over, every Sun, 6-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

**Robert Louie Cancer Support Group** of SF provides social & emotional support to children with cancer, their parents & siblings. Info: 775-5921.

**Berkeley Free Clinic** offers free gen'l health, dental, counseling & information services, plus referrals. Also has women's health clinic by & for women. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 548-2570 (non-voice TDD 548-8238).

**Planetree** Health Resource Ctr: nonprofit ctr provides a place to go when you need more info about health or medical concerns. Get up-to-date medical info to assist you in making informed choices about your health. Ctr maintains extensive consumer health library, current medical lit clippings &

health bookstore. Also support groups, health information service by mail, and more. 2040 Webster St, SF. Info: 923-3680.

## ► HOBBIES

**SF Gay Video Club**: group of gay men & women who own or use video cameras to produce our own videos. All formats welcome. Twice monthly mtg. Field trips. Free. For info write SF Gay Video Club, PO Box 14414, SF 94114.
**Women's Reading Group:** small, informal group of women who meet bimonthly to discuss books by women authors. Info: Jill 221-8518, Gail 665-8346.
**Heliotrope, Sonoma County** Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets to discuss novels. For info/location: Michael (707) 577-0551.
**Discussion Group**: variety of topics. Meets Sun at 7 pm. Info/location: 626-1468.
**Hortiphiles:** a group for lesbians & gay men who enjoy growing plants. For info write PO Box 31, Palo Alto, 94301 or call Michael (415) 826-2515 or Henrietta (408) 246-1117.
**Gay Ham Group:** Lambda Radio Amateur Club, Bay Area chapter, meets 8 pm, 2nd Thurs of each month. Hams & those interested in learning about the hobby & group call Bill 821-2666.
**Phoebe Snow Society**: int'l organization of gay rail fans. Gay people interested in trains, railroading & travel are welcome to join. Info: 352-0301.
**Gay Group Massage:** small, informal gathering for giving & receiving massage in a safe, warm, fun setting. All levels welcome. For gay men under 50 years old. Send SASE with name & phone number to George, PO Box 590790, SF 94159.
**Genealogy Discussion Group** meets monthly. Info/location: Larry 647-0637.
**Lesbian Cartoonists** welcome female fellow twisted souls for support. Meets 1st & 3rd Sun of each month at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. 6 pm. Info: JD 835-8388, or Roxxie 733-2149.
**Gay Men's Sketch**: informal drawing group for gay men. Provides classical nude modeling by gay male model. Open to all skill levels. 2 min gestures to 40-min drawing. Info/schedule: Mark 621-6294.
**Women's Sing-A-Long** meets monthly for an eve of musical fun & friendship. For info call Birch 841-6032.

## ► HOTLINES AND REFERRALS

**SF Sex Information** Switchboard: Mon-Fri, 3-9 pm. Info and referrals on all aspects of sexuality, for all ages & lifestyles. 621-7300.
**Battered Lesbian** 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: Liz at WOMAN Inc. 864-4722.
**Gay Domestic Violence:** info, peer counseling for gay & bisexual men who batter. Referrals for victims of battering. Spons by MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence). Info: 626-MOVE.
**Gay Men's Domestic Violence** Project provides direct services for male victims of domestic violence. 24-hr report hotline. Spons by CUAV. Call 864-7233 for help.
**Gay Area Youth** Switchboard: Info, referral, peer counseling. Info: 386-GAYS or POB 846, SF 94101.
**The Lesbian/Gay Switchboard** trained volunteers at Pacfic Ctr listen to your concerns. Also Bay Area & nationwide info—from sports, entertainment, rap groups, counseling, AIDS info. Call 841-6224.
**AIDS & ARC Switchboard:** Mon-Fri 9 am-6 pm, Sat 11 am-5 pm; 861-7309.
**SF AIDS Foundation** Hotline: (Spanish/English) info & referral to SF & No Calif (800) FOR-AIDS, TDD 864-6606. Tagalog AIDS Hotline: 1-(800) FIL-AIDS (voice/TDD). Hrs: 9 am-9 pm Mon-Fri, 11 am-5 pm Sat & Sun.
**Marin AIDS Services Network** (MASN) 24-hour info line: 457-AIDS.
**CareGivers Call-In:** free telephone consultation on personal issues related to taking care of people with AIDS. For health professionals & volunteers. Call 882-2411 Mon-Fri 7-10 pm. Spons by The CareGivers Project.
**AIDS Legal Referral Panel:** see AIDS Resources for details. Info: 291-5454.
**Poison Control Central:** 24 hr service. Over-the-phone help w/ poison emergencies. Call 476-6600.
**SF Drug Line:** support, info, referrals on drug problems/treatment. Call 752-3400.
**Discriminated Against** because of your sexual orientation? Contact SF Human Rights Commission, Lesbian/Gay Liaison Unit. There are local laws to protect you. Info: Larry Brinkin 558-4901.
**Gay Legal Referral Services** for all legal problems. ½ hour consultation, $20. Some low-fee & no-fee referrals available. Info: 621-3900.
**Physician/Dental Referrals** provided by BAPHR (Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights): free referrals for the lesbian & gay community. Info: 673-3189.
**Southbay Gay Hotline:** info, referrals, peer counseling. (408)293-4525, (408) 293-AGAY
**Emergency Food Box Program** provides 3-day supply of nutritionally balanced food to those in emergency situations. Info: 621-7575.
**Berkeley Free Clinic** offers medical, dental, counseling & housing support services. For info call switchboard 548-2570.
**Renters: Learn Your Rights!** Old St. Mary's Housing Committee offers special clinics: gen'l rights counseling Mon 6:30-8:30 pm in the Haight, 1833 Page, SF. Downtown (660 California St) clinic specializes in evictions, Rent Board procedures & leases; Thurs 5:30-8:30 pm. Info/appt: 398-0724.
**SF Tenants Union**: provides free walk-in or telephone counseling for members, walk-in only counseling for non-members. Call 282-6622 for info. 558 Capp St, SF.
**Sentinel Fair Housing**: nonprofit agency investigates complaints of housing discrimination & provides comprehensive housing counseling to residents of Northern Alameda County (also referrals for out-of-area persons). If you think you have been discriminated against, call 836-2687 for help/info/referral.
**Options Homeshare:** lonely? rent too high, or needs services in exchange for housing? Options Homeshare counselors fulfill housing needs by matching seniors with seniors or younger persons with seniors. Women & men welcome. Spons by Options for Women Over 40. Info: 552-4549.
**Senior Information Line:** events & services available to seniors in SF, spons by SF Dept. of Public Health. Hotline: 552-6016. Anyone wishing to add an event should call 626-1033.
**Neighbors Driving You Crazy?** Community Boards can help—CB is a free, fast & effective dispute resolution service for SF residents with problems: renter/owner disputes, noise, pets, money disputes, family or housemate problems, etc. Call 239-6100 & get relief.
**Bay Area Bisexual Speakers Bureau**: addresses all topics related to bisexuals. Speakers available for events, conferences, wkshops, etc. Info: 564-2226.
**SF Women Against Rape** provides individual & group counseling for rape survivors. SFWAR also does advocacy & educational work & holds house meetings where groups of women discuss concerns & fears, & ways to prevent rape. For info: 647-RAPE. 3543 18th St, SF 94110.
**California Runaway Hotline** provides the following services to young people who have run away from home, & to their parents: crisis intervention counseling, referrals to resource agencies & a neutral message center. For help call 800-843-5200.
**Spanish/English Employment** Services for midlife & older women. Spons by Options for Women Over 40, 3543 18th St, SF. Info: 431-6405.
**Calif Lawyers for the Arts** (CLA): nonprofit offers legal info & education to artists. Info: 775-7200.
**Gay/Lesbian Speakers Bureau** spons by GAYLESTA (Gay/Lesbian Mental Health Therapists of the Bay Area). Offers educational speakers & videotapes. Info: Judy Schavrien 648-1318.
**Computer Bulletin Board** spons by Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Ministry. Gay/lesbian, church, AIDS & community issues. Forums, news, views, confidential mail. "Breaking Walls, Building Bridges", 827-0804, 3/12/2400, 24 hrs.

## ► INCEST AND BATTERY

**Incest Survivor Groups:** both mixed women's groups & those for lesbians in recovery from drugs or alcohol. Phase 1 & 2 groups. Iris Project, 264 Valencia, SF. Info: 864-2364.
**Incest Survivors Anonymous:** We are no longer alone, we have each other. Incest Survivors Anonymous is a 12-step program that enables incest survivors to break out of the victim role & the nightmare of terror, guilt & confusion. Closed mtg for survivors & pro-survivors. Original perpetrators of incest or rape or victims who later became initiators do not attend ISA mtgs. Initiation is determined by intent. Mtgs for women & men: Sun 7-8:30 pm; Mon, Tues & Thurs 7:30-9 pm. For women: Wed 7:30 pm, Sat at 11 am. For locations & other info call 359-2070 anytime.
**Lesbian Incest Survivors** in recovery from drug addiction. Group offered by Haight Ashbury Free Clinic Drug Detox Project. Call Holly Gold, MSW or Pam Kirby 565-1908. Free.
**Gay & Bisexual Men Who Batter:** Are you feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love the most? MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence) provides assistance & support for change in a safe, confidential place. Info: 626-MOVE.
**Overcoming Violent Behavior** Anonymous-SF: 12-step fellowship for batters, based on the principles of AA. Women-only mtg. Thurs 6:30-7:45 pm, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of SF, 150 Eureka St, SF.
**Counseling for Battered Gay Men:** Is the hand that holds you in public the hand that strikes you in private? CUAV (Community United Against Violence) offers free individual counseling & support groups for you. Call 864-3112, or 864-7233 (24-hr hotline). Call us, we can help.
**Support Group for Men** who have been physically and/or emotionally abused in relationships. Led by licensed clinical psychologist, spons by Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project. For info/reg: CUAV 864-3112. Confidentiality guaranteed.
**Support Group for Lesbians** who are or have been in a battering relationship; SL. Info: Women Inc.: 864-4722.
**Battered Lesbian Drop-In Group:** spons by Sonoma County YWCA Women's Emergency Shelter Program. Info: (707) 546-1234. Call—you are not the only one.
**Battered Lesbians Services** offered by Marin Abused Women's Services. Call 924-6616 ask for Holly or Odilia.
**Battered Lesbian** 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: WOMAN Inc. 864-4722.
**La Casa de las Madres** provides shelter for battered women & their children. Info: 777-1808.
**Rosalie House's** offers Women's Jobs Program offers vocational services to battered women & formerly battered women. Counseling, referrals, resume writing & job placement. Free. Call Alma 863-2160 for info.
**For more listings** under this category, see the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under **"Incest/Battery Therapy/Support Groups".**

## ► PARENTING & FAMILY RESOURCES

**Gay Fathers/SF Bay Area** a support group for gay men of all ages dealing with issues of parenting. Monthly supper mtgs with discussion, plus social events & outings with kids. Info: 759-5122. Newcomers welcome!
**A Different Breed:** social group for families with dual, single or multiple parents who identify outside the mainstream (biseuxal, lesbian, gay, transsexual, etc) meets monthly. Info: Susan 524-0574.
**Expanded Family Network** supports committed, loving, multi-partner relationships, with possibilities for shared child-rearing & combined economic support. Resource center, discussion, support & networking in a safe, friendly environment for women & men of all sexual preferences. Montly potlucks, weekly social events. NOT a swinger's organization, therapy group or dating club. Info: 995-2607.
**Single Lesbians Parenting Group**: a social group for single lesbians who are considering, planning or actively parenting. Info: write 2370 Market ST#119, SF 94114 or call 641-5324, 3-10 pm, M-F, 10 am-10 pm Sat & Sun.
**Gay/Lesbian Parenting Group**, a support group for lesbians and gay men who have children, or who wish to become parents. Newsletter, potluck socials, outings, discussion groups. Info: Malke 893-1953, or write LGPG, PO Box 410221, SF CA 94141.
**Lesbian Mothers of Teenage** & Adult Children group: call 626-7109 for info.
**Lesbian Moms** of Young Children/Babies: Interested in networking in the Eastbay. Come to potluck/brunch—call 540-7171 for details.
**Parents Park Hop & Doo Wop**: social group for mid-Peninsula-SF gay & lesbian parents of the 2 & under crowd. Monthly outings, babysitting exchange, musical adventures, treasure hunts, etc. Info: 598-9265.
**Lesbian Parent Group** meets Mon eves at 7 pm. All types of lesbian parents are welcome to join this small, informal group. For location & other info: 861-0545.
**Lesbian Parent Group** for lesbians whose children are of speaking/school age. Socialize, get support; exchange childcare, parenting ideas. Info: 861-9822.
**Southbay Gay Parents:** an organization for gay fathers & lesbian mothers. Meets 3rd Sun of each month in the San Jose area for mutual support & for exploring parenting issues. For information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**Lesbian Non-custodial Mothers Group**, write Cricket, PO Box 191294, SF CA 94119 for info.

**Ever Given Up A Child for Adoption?** Ongoing support group for birthmothers. offers support for healing our losses, help in searching for our children. Info: 626-8124.

**Adoption Support Groups** for adult adoptees, birth parents & adoptive parents. Info: Post-Adoption Ctr for Education & Research 935-6622.

**Chain of Life**: feminist adoption reform newsletter, supports open records & search & reunification of adoptees & birth families; critiques traditional adoption practices. Edited by adoptee. For backlist/info send SASE to J Baer, Chain of Life, PO Box 8081, Berkeley, CA 94707.

**NOCIRC** (Nat'l Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Ctrs) offers education, information & support about circumcision. Learn why circumcision is physically & emotionally damaging to children. Info: 488-9883 or 827-4077.

**Lesbian & Gay Parenting Program** offered by Lyon Martin Clinic. Offers ongoing seminars, wkshops, small groups & forums for lesbians & gays thinking about parenting, and for lesbian & gay families; including 8-wk "Lesbians Considering Parenthood," & "Gay Men Considering Parenthood," groups. Call Lyon-Martin 641-0220 for info.

**East Bay Lesbian Parents** support/social group. Call Toni 652-8183 for info.

**Childbirth Education** for lesbian families. Small group or individual classes available. Info: Suellen Sleamater, RN, MHS, Lyon-Martin Parenting Project childbirth educator. Info: 826-4489.

**Parent Counseling:** Free. Informal. Both large & small questions welcome. Instructor/counselor with 20 years experience in parent education & child development. Wed 7:30-9 pm. Castro Valencia Ctr. Info/appt: Jan Baer 239-3660 (days).

**Perinatal Project** for drug abusing pregnant women & mothers. Get help with crack & cocaine addiction. Women helping women stay sober; spons by the Women's Institute for Mental Health. For info call 864-2364 or drop in at orientation, Mon-Thurs at 3 pm. 333 Valencia St, SF. Ste 222.

**The AIDS Family Project** offers ongoing group for teenagers (14-19) who have HIV-infected family members. Info: Stacey Shuster, PhD at Operation Concern 626-7000.

**Lesbian Mothers/Persian Gulf Crisis**: Lesbian mothers of sons or daughters serving in the armed services in the Persian Gulf get together for support & talk. Gay fathers also welcome. Info: 239-5692.

**Be sure to check** the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under "Parenting" for other parenting services/info.

## ► PEOPLE OF COLOR

**Black & White Men Together** Rap/Socials: every Fri at 1350 Waller St nr Masonic, SF. Rap 6:30-9 pm. For info/mtg topic: 826-BWMT. Thom Bean, facilitator; Calvin Lowery, greeter.

**Men** of All Colors Together, Greater Bay Area: gay interracial organization that supports all relationships & cultural uniqueness. Social, political & cultural awareness programs & events. Info: Lee 261-7922

**United Colors of Queer Nation:** Direct action group for queers of color, focus group of Queer Nation. Composed of queer people of color united to bring our common issues to the foreground of discussion & increase our visibility within & outside of the queer community, thru direct action. For info on mtgs & actions call John 821-6108 or 985-7141.

**Bisexual of Color Caucus:** resource, support, political action, social group. Info: Lani 821-3534.

**Interracial Relationship Social** Mixers/Wkshops: hosted by BWMT/Bay Area. Monthly, 7-10 pm, $5 donation. Facilitated small group discussions, followed by social period. Anyone interested in exploring an interracial relationship is welcome. Info: 641-5706.

**Lesbians of Color/**Third World Lesbian Support Group meets Thursdays, 6:30-8pm; $3 donation (no one turned away for lack of funds); Pacific Ctr, Telegraph & Derby, Berk. Info: Camille Barber; 548-8283.

**Black Lesbian Support Group** for Black lesbians in multicultural relationships. Meets 1st Sun of each month. Oakland location/accessible. Info: 839-3302 or 653-5732.

**Multicultural Lesbian Writers Group:** call 995-2730 for details.

**Gay & South Asian?** You're not alone! Indian, Pakistani, Bangla Deshi, Sri Lankan, Nepali, Bhutani, Tibetan—men & women—this is our chance to find each other! Trikone, a support group for gay men & lesbians from the Indian subcontinent. Info: PO Box 21354, San Jose, CA 95151. (408) 270-8776.

**Third World People with AIDS**/ARC group spons by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. See AIDS Resources.

**Asian/Pacific** HIV-Positive Gay Men's support group offered by GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance), see AIDS Resources.

**Gay Asian Rap Group** in SF, spons by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. Meets every other Wed, 7-9 pm. Info: 282-GAPA.

**Japanese Lesbian Group:** Nihongo o Bokokugo to suru Lesbian no Group. Maitsuki Daini Nichiyobi Meeting Ari. Denwa (Yoru) 563-8253.

**CASA**: Community Alternative Social Assoc. A social & community service organization for gay Latinos & friends. Info: 695-0644 or write PO Box 590276, SF 94159-0276.

**Mujero, Bay Area Latina Lesbian** Organization, holds gen'l mtgs the 3rd Sun of each month. All Latina lesbians are welcome. Info/location: 648-1291.

**Chinese Lesbian Social Group**: for info call 482-5920 or write 370 Turk St #36, SF 94103.

**Asian Pacific Sisters**: an organization of Asian Pacific lesbians & bisexual women. APS provides its members with an atmosphere where they can openly share their experience. APS includes women of various Asian heritage, including Japanese, Filipino, Chinese, Vietnamese & others; and sponsors picnics, potluck dinners, softball games & over events. For upcoming business/social events call 750-3385. All Asian/Pacific lesbian & bisexual women are welcome!

**Vietnamese Lesbian & Gay** Support Group: safe, supportive environment for lesbian & gay men to talk & share experiences in Vietnamese. Discussion topics include: coming out to Vietnamese family & friends, relationships, health & safe sex practices; racial, gender & sexual stereotypes. Addt'l topics chosen at mtgs. Confidentiality respected. Group meets every 3rd Sun in SF, 3-5 pm, every first Sun in San Jose, 3-5 pm. Info: Dung Nguyen (women) or Tony Nguyen (men) at 771-7256, 7-9 pm Mon-Fri or write: Vietnamese L/G Support Group, c/o Asian Pacific Alliance, PO Box 421884, SF CA 94142-1884.

**Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual & Korean?** Monthly mtgs, discussions, potlucks & special activities offered. Mtgs 1st Sun of each month, 1-3 pm, in SF. Info: Lori 563-8689. Mtgs conducted in English, with some bilingual participants.

**Asian & Pacific Islander** Gay/Bi Men's Support Group: meets Tues 6:30-8 pm at Pacific Ctr. Gay Asian men of all ages are welcome. Info/res: 841-6224. 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley.

**Black Men's Support Group** open to Black men of all ages. Drop-in, at Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

**Gay/Asian Pacific Alliance** (GAPA): group by & for gay men of Asian & Pacific Islander heritages. GAPA seeks to create a positive & visible presence for gay Asian/Pacifics in the SF Bay Area. Gen'l mtgs: every 2nd Sun of the month at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. 6-8 pm. Also bimonthly newsletter "Lavender Godzilla", write to PO Box 421884, SF CA 94142-1884 to subscribe. Info: Donald Masuda 387-0466.

**Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual & Korean?** Come to monthly, informal get-togethers. Conducted primarily in English, with some bilingual participants. Info: Lori 563-8689.

**African-American Men** dealing with AIDS/ARC/HIV Support Group at SF AIDS Fdn, see AIDS Resources.

**Lesbian/Gay People of Color AA/ACA** mtgs in the EB & SF—see Addiction Recovery.

**Black Gays & Lesbians ACA** Group: see Addiction Recovery.

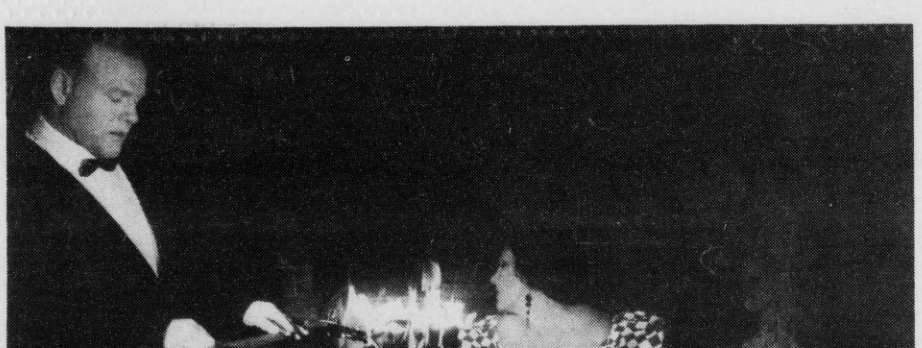
**Children of Alcoholics/Addicts** Group for children of color, see Addiction Recovery.

**Lesbians of Color** sobriety support group at Iris Project, see Addiction Recovery.

**Motorcycle Club** for Black gay women. Info: 1724 Sacramento St, #6, SF 94109.

**ALBWN & ALGBN:** Arab Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Network and Arab Lesbian & Bisexual Women's Network. Offers support for women & men of Arab descent and Middle Eastern ancestry. Activities include monthly potluck dinners, discussion of topics of relevance to the lesbian, gay & bisexual Arab community. Three separate mtgs: a women's mtg (Arab Lesbian & Bisexual Women's Network), a men's mtg, and a mixed mtg where both men & women gather. For information write ALGBN or ALBWN, PO Box 460526, SF 94114.

## ► PERFORMANCE ARTS



*Esmeralda returns! She's at Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, Dec 12 & 19. See calendar for details.*

**Bay Area Raw Rahs**, a collegiate-style cheerleading/precision dance exhibition group, performs dance routines, human pyramids, gymnastic stunts & cheers at ballgames, parades and festivals. Practices held Sundays for two hours. No experience necessary to become a member. Call Steve Burke 228-7497 for info.

**Mothertongue Feminist Theater** Collective welcomes any woman with ideas to share & stories to tell—writing & performing experience not necessary. Info: 848-5966.

**Wry Crips/Disabled Women's Theater Arts.** Created & managed by women who have physical, emotional, developmental; multiple & hidden disabilities/chronic illness. Submission of poetry, prose & stories about women living with disability/chronic illness, and those who love them, is accepted on an ongoing basis. Women of color of all ages are especially welcome. Performers, production people & care assistants or board members are welcome. Info/details: 601-5819, or write PO Box 21474, Oakl 94620.

**Community Spirit Art Program** (CSAP), a grassroots group centered in the gay & lesbian community. Presents art exhibitions, performances & public symposiums centering on the theme of art as a healing resource during the AIDS crisis. See AIDS Resources for details.

**Community Women's Orchestra:** amateur orchestra for women, spons by the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic. Wkly Tues night rehearsals. Orchestra gives 3 concerts each season in Dec, March & May. No audition required, but all musicians must have prior experience playing in an orchestra or other ensemble. String players are always welcome, wind players may join if there's an opening in their section. Conducted by Nan Washburn, artistic director & associate conductor of BAWP. Info: 543-2297.

**Bay Area Gay & Lesbian Band**: performs music from classical to swing, marching to showtunes, full band to duets; at various community events, private parties, etc. Info: 558-9693 or write: BAGAL Band, PO Box 280571, SF 94128-0571.

**SF Band Foundation** spons City Swing, Vocal Minority, SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, Flag Corps, Twirling Corps, SF Tap Troupe & Outlook Video. Most groups meet at Jon Sims Ctr for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St, SF. New members are always welcome. Call 621-5619 for mtg times & other info.

**VOICES** Bay Area lesbian choral ensemble rehearses Tues 7:30-10 pm, in SF. Women who read music, especially women of color, are encouraged to audition. For info call 773-9181. Group is available for performances.

**Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF** invites you to join in making music & having fun. Ability to read music a plus, but not necessary. Rehearsals: Thurs 7:30-10 pm nr Church/Market in SF. For details call Pat Parr 621-3088.

**The Society of Gay & Lesbian Composers** encourages the composition of music that conveys the attitudes, ideals & uniqueness of gay & lesbian cultures. Group sponsors 3 annual concerts, plus monthly business & social mtgs (usually in SF) where composers can meet & share their music & ideas. For info/location of next mtg call 681-8008. For brochure/membership application or other info write 2261 Market St#459, SF 94114.

**STBS**, a nonprofit tix agency operated by Performing Arts Services, sells full-price tix in adv & half-price tix day of show. Proceeds benefit Bay Area performing arts. Booth at Union Square, 251 Stockton (btwn Post & Geary) and at One Embarcadero Ctr (street level), SF. Info: 433-STBS.

**GAWK** (Gay Artists & Writers Kollective). Join rock musicians, singers, writers, cartoonists, comedians & others for eclectic, upbeat, fun socializing. Info: Jon Sugar 731-2424 or write 901 Stanyan St #14, SF 94117.

**Fat Lip Readers Theatre**: political theatre collective of fat, fiesty & diverse women who strut their stuff on stage & video, and in wkshops. Submissions of poetry, prose, stories & analysis with a fat liberation perspective are welcome & respected. Info: PO Box 29963, Oakl 94604; 655-7404.

**Ragtime Music Society**: club dedicated to promoting ragtime music & friendship among those who appreciate it. Info: Bill Pike 552-4270.

**Calif Lawyers for the Arts** (CLA): nonprofit providing legal info & education to artists. Info: 775-7200.

## ► POLITICAL

**Queer Nation:** Direct action group of queers fighting for our queer rights *now*. Open to all sexual orientations & gender identities. Meets Wed, 7:30 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St at Guerrero, SF. For info on mtgs, emergency activations & future actions call 985-7141.

**LABIA** (Lesbians & Biwomyn in Action)—focus group of Queer Nation. Lesbian & biwomyn interested in raising consciousness & visibility of lesbian & bisexual issues within & outside of the queer community, thru direct action & education. Info: Rachel 626-9493, 985-7141.

**United Colors of Queer Nation**: direct action group for queers of color, a focus group of Queer Nation. See People of Color listings for more info.

**Queer Nation East Bay** works to promote lesbian, gay & bisexual visibility and acceptance throughout the East Bay. For mtg time/location & for upcoming actions, call 464-3072.

**Feminists for Animal Rights** welcomes women in working to end all forms of exploitation against animals. For info re newsletter, meetings, events, t-shirt, etc, call 647-7019.

**Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against** Defamation (GLAAD) works for fair & diverse coverage of lesbians & gay men, fights stereotypical portrayals in the print & electronic media. To report a defamation, call 861-4588 or send photocopies or tapes to GLAAD, 2370 Market St, Box 38, SF 94114. Gen'l membership mtgs are usually held the 3rd Sun of each month, 7 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF, 2nd floor.

**Lesbians & Gays** Against Intervention (LAGAI), an activist & educational group fighting for lesbian & gay liberation. Primary area of work is against US involvement in El Salvador, Nicarauga & Central America, as well as solidarity work with lesbian & gay liberation groups in Latin America. For more info/mtg schedule call 821-9087 or 346-0647.

**BiPol:** bisexual, lesbian & gay political action group of the SF Bay Area. Info: write BiPol, 584 Castro St #422, SF 94114 or call 775-1990.

**Radical Multicultural** Feminist Bisexual Network: political action/discussion group. WA, SIGN available. Info: Pata 567-6883.

**Bisexual Feminist Men's Group**: Bi men addressing feminism in their lives thru political action/discussion/theater. Paul 731-7648.

**Lesbian Agenda for Action:** (LAFA) political & social action nonprofit membership organization committed to promoting lesbian visibility. Info: 552-5677.

**Lesbian Uprising!** A feminist political, educational & cultural group of Bay Area lesbians who envision a return to the radical ideals of the women's liberation movement; who recognize the deep connection between the personal & the political, and seek means to embody those connections in concrete ways. Group defends & empowers women by being visible, participating in street demos, etc. Group also meets twice monthly to discuss exciting feminist literature & theory. Interested? Call Gail 441-6238 or Ann 665-6746 for info/location.

**War Tax Resistors** Support Gathering: 2nd Sun of each month. Keep your money from funding oppression & destruction. Call 843-9877 for info. Eastbay & SF locations.

**Alice B Toklas** Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club meets every 2nd Mon of the month, 7:30 pm, at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. Info: 621-3296.

**Lesbian Separatist Discussion** Group: tired of felling like you're the only lesbian separatist in town? This group's for you! Group meets every 3 wks, lesbian seps only. For info/location: 824-0456.

**Feminist Lesbians inspired by Sonia** Johnson, creating community beyond patriarchy. Info: Chris 261-9053, Tanya 381-5680.

**Berkeley Women in Black:** We mourn Middle East violence & the Israeli occupation. We want negotiations now for a just & lasting peace. Join us: Vigil every Fri, noon-1 pm, at Telegraph & Haste, in front of Cody's Books. Info: Ruth 644-0480. All women welcome.

**Weekly Vigil** to protest the ever-present violence towards women. Every Tues, noon-1 pm. Gather SE corner of Stockton & Geary, SF. Wear black and purple. Info: Laura 626-7821 (SF), Ruth 644-0480 (EB), or just show up.

## ► PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

**BANGLE** (Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators) meets 3rd Thurs of each month, 7:30 pm, 655 14th St, SF. To confirm location & for other call Barbara 285-5078.

**Golden Gate Business Association** (GGBA): comprised of gay & lesbian businesses, professionals, artisans & individuals throughout the Bay Area. Monthly networking events & more. For membership & event info call (415) 441-3651 or (800) 272-0278. Office Hrs: Mon-Fri 11 am-4 pm.

**Peninsula Business & Professional** Association: gay/lesbian group meets 4th Tues of the month at Mercury Savings & Loan Community Room, 99 El Camino Real, Menlo Park (across from Stanford Park Hotel, north of Stanford Shopping Ctr). 7-8 pm get acquainted hour, 8-9 pm program, 9-10 pm social.

**Southbay BANGLE** meets every 2nd Wed, of month, 7-9 pm at De Frank Community Ctr in San Jose. Info: (408) 293-2429.

**Brava! For Women** in the Arts: multicultural organization of women artists who promote excellence among women in the arts thru professional presentation of established women artists, as well as providing services & assistance to emerging women artists. Info: 641-7657.

**GAYLESTA**, organization of gay, lesbian & bisxual psychotherapists. Professional networking, internal & external education, and social events. Info: Don 339-8077.

**Federal Lesbians & Gays** (FLAG) offers support, advice & activities for Federal employees. Mtg 2nd Wed of each month, 6 pm. SF location. Info: 695-9174.

**Differently-Employed Women:** network for women dedicated to creating sane, joyful & abundant livelihood. For newsletter, mtg schedule or other info call Tori Bogart 750-0946 or Susan Summerfield 648-2908.

## ► SENIORS

**Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) offers various groups (writing, outings, discussion, etc) of interest to lesbians & gay men. For info on groups offered call 626-7000.**

**Senior Information Line:**—see Hotlines & Referrals.

**Options Homeshare:** lonely? rent too high, or need services in exchange for housing? See hotlines & referrals.

**Women Over 50** Support Group: see Support Groups.

**Older Women's Rap Group (50+)**, Peninsula Chapter, meets 2nd Sat of each month at 4 pm, Veteran's Memorial Bldg, 711 Nevada St, Redwood City. Info: Mary K 364-6970.

**Older Lesbians of the South Bay** (50+) meet every 3rd Sun at 3 pm at Los Gatos Neighborhood Ctr, room 214, Main St, Los Gatos. Casual atmosphere, singles or couples welcome. Info: Two Sisters Bookshop 323-4778.

## ► SOCIAL GROUPS

**Girth & Mirth Club** of SF meets Sat. Chubbies meet chasers meet chubbies. For info write: PO Box 528, SF 94101 or call 24-hr message hotline: 552-1143.

**The Golden Gate Connection:** a social club for chubbies & chasers. Ongoing activities, monthly parties, newsletter & more. Info 871-7870 or write GGC, PO Box 2328, Daly City, 94017.

**Feminist Lesbian Social Group** (FLSG) meets once monthly in the S. Bay for a potluck. Open to all women who want to make new contacts & renew old ones. Info: FLSG, POB 70933, Sunnyvale 94086.

**Grupo Sociocultural Hispano**, gay & lesbian. El grupo se reune los viernes o sabados segunados del mes, haiga comida o bevidos. Se espera que todos habla Espanol, principiantes bien venidos. Informacion Armando 641-1868.

**Der Deutsche Freundschatkreis** hat seinen naechsten Potluckparty am dritten Freitag dieses Monats. Alle, die Deutsch sprechen oder Interesse daran haben sind herzlich Willkommen. Rufe Don unter 329-1438 an. Bis bald!

**La Geja Esperantisa Rondo** de San Francisco kunvenas la 3an vendredon de chiu monato. Kaj komencantoj kaj fluaj parolantoj estas bonvenaj. Telefonu al Earl, 621-6082 por li detala informo pri loko kaj horo.

**Russian Group**: serious Ruscophiles with a sense of humor & a sincere desire to speak Russian. Novice to native speakers welcome. 3rd Sun of each month, call 647-3325 for time/location.

**UCGALA** (Univ of Calif Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc). Open to graduates and anyone else who is a friend of the University. Annual membership: $15. For info & to get on mailing list (confidentiality assured), call 267-3150. Monthly social & cultural events.

**Stanford Lesbian & Gay Alumni:** group for Bay Area Stanford alumni. Theater, outings, parties & other activities. Come join us! For info write SLAG, PO Box 460632, SF 94146-0632 call Dick 648-5836.

**Cal Poly GALA** (Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc) provides social & cultural support for lesbian, gay & bisexual students, curricula & activites; and serves the needs alumni & future alumni. Absolute confidentiality assurred. Info: (408) 245-7179.

**BFSF** (BiFriendly-SF): social group open to bisexuals & bifriendly others. BFSF meets 7 pm Mon at Village Deli, 495 Castro St, SF for dinner & conversation with other bisexuals & friends. For other activities/calendar: 753-0687.

**BiFriendly East Bay** (BFEB): bisexual men's & women's social group meets 1st & 3rd Tues for dinner & conversation at Anna's, 6420 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley; and 2nd & 4th Tues at 7:30 pm at the White Horse, 6551 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: Bill 540-0869.

**Bi-Friendly UC**: support group followed by social. Meets Wed 6:30-8:30 pm in Berkeley (ASUC Bldg, Douglas Fir Room). All members of the UC Berkeley/UCSF community are welcome. Info: Mark 549-2238 or Betsy 845-7441.
**BiFriendly South Bay** (BFSB) bisexual social group for men, women & bifriendly others in the South Bay/Peninsula area. Meets Mon 7:30 pm. Info/location: Steve (415) 968-5902, Liz 857-1044.
**BiFriendly Sonoma County:** bisexual social/support group for men, women & bifriendly others in Sonoma/North Bay. Info: Colin (707) 823-2990.
**Lavendar Hill Mob:** a social club for married men, bisexuals & masculine gay guys. Info: 369-1610 or write David, PO Box 610055, Redwood City, CA 94061.
**Men's Associated Exchange** (MAX): an organization for gay men, offering social, athletic, philantrophic, cultural & travel activities. Info: Tim Bause, MAX, 564 Mission St, SF, Ste 127, 94105.
**Napa Valley Women's Network** meets 1st Fri eve of every month in Yountville. Come socialize, meet new friends, network, check bulletin board. Info: Cassandra (707) 944-8081.
**Lesbian Social/Movie** Get-Together: monthly event. Casual social & movie-watching. Single, monogamous, coupled, confused, unidentified or whatever—if you're a lesbian 30 or over, you're welcome! Bring goodies to share. For info/location: 531-3943.
**Berkeley Flats Lesbians**: come to potluck brunch, meet your neighbors! South Berkeley location. Info: Leslie 420-0525.
**North Oakland Lesbians:** potlucks, networking, etc. Info: 655-1408, 655-2837.
**Alameda Neighborhood** Lesbians Group: meet other women who live in Alameda, for movies, biking, walks, get-togethers, etc. Come find out who your neighbors are! Info: 865-7811.
**Lake Merritt Neighborhood** Potluck for lesbians & gays living in the Lake Merritt, Oakland area. Monthly get-togethers, come meet your neighbors! Info: 832-5609.
**Latin American Lesbian** Social Group meets monthly in Eastbay, see People of Color.
**CASA** (Commujnity Alternative Social Assoc) for gay Latinos & friends, see People of Color.
**Chinese lesbian group** meets for outing, potlucks, etc, see People of Color.
**Left Brain Lesbians:** a social club for the shamelessly inquisitive. Contact Susan 334-1828 for info.
**Brainy-Artsy Gals**: for relationship-oriented single women in the arts or interested in the arts, and looking for like-minded friends. Parties/events. Call 824-4401.
**Momcats Social Group** for folks who are the parents of one or more furry felines. Share the joys & concerns unique to having an intimate relationship with a cat. Info: 992-3383.
**Dog Lovers Group** for folks interested in walking our dogs together, pooch picnics, dog play sessions, or other fun activities with our pets. Eastbay location. Small dogs welcome. Info: 486-0615.
**Theatre Women:** group goes on monthly theatre trip. Performance decided upon by group. Women interested in the theater are welcome. Info: Shannon 588-1850.
**Soul Ventures** social group for the Bay Area HIV + /PWA community, see AIDS Resources for details.
**SF Social Group for Women** interested in meeting other lesbians with various interests. Group meets for socials, potlucks, movies, weekend outings, etc. Singles & couples welcome. Info: Alicia 681-5815.
**Lesbians Welcoming Women** to SF: join group for food & fun on the 3rd Thurs of each month at Artemis Cafe, 23rd & Valencia, SF, at 7:30 pm.
**Jewish Lesbian Social/Cultural Group** meets in SF; call Laura 864-1635 for info.
**Peninsula Gay & Lesbian Jews** Group: call Laurie 365-6039 for details.
**Now We've Got The Time**: social group for gay men with HIV, see AIDS Resources for info.

## ► SPIRITUALITY

**Shabbat Services** with Sha'ar Zahav, Jewish lesbian/gay congregation. Every Fri at 8:15 pm & last Saturday of each month, 10:30 am. 220 Danvers (upper Market), SF. 861-6932.
**Beit Shekhinah Congregation**: inspired by the feminine principle & Jewish sacred art. Creative, egalitarian Judaism. Meets in the Eastbay at Hillside Church, El Cerrito. For info: Rabbi Leah Novick 451-6437.
**Jewish Lesbians** & friends meet to celebrate Shabbat, 1st Fri of each month, EB location. Join us for song, food & Jewish culture—no experience necessary! Jewish women of color and Sephardic women especially welcome. Info: 653-8745, 531-5465.
**Women's Circle** meets in SF monthly at the full & new moon to explore the many facets of the Goddess. Info: Lupa 751-8918.
**Sunday's Women** gather to explore the Goddess Movement, network with other spiritual women. Guest speakers. 3rd Sun of each month, Montclair Women's Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd, Oakl. $7-10 donation. Spons by Women's Spirituality Forum. Call the Goddess Hotline, 420-1454, for info on current & upcoming events.
**St Marks Lutheran Church** Communion: Sun, 8,30 & 11 am, 1111 O'Farrell at Gough, SF. Info: 928-7770.
**St Paul's Lutheran Church**: worship & Eucharist, Sun, 10 am. 1658 Excelsior Ave, Oakl (just off I-580). Info: 530-6333.
**Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministry**: program-oriented ministry of affirmation and spiritual care. Programs include individual & couples counseling, Holy Unions, support groups, ritual group for lesbians, workshops, etc. Info: Jeff, Ruth or Phyllis at 553-4026.
**Acceptance: Baptist** Bible Study & support group meets Wednes-days, 7:30 pm. Location varies. Everyone is welcome. For info: 843-9705, 626-5034.
**American Baptists Concerned:** a supportive community of gay/lesbian Baptists & friends. Meets at 1 pm the first Sun of each month for fellowship and a potluck. Everyone is welcome! Also publishes quarterly newsletter, *Voice of the Turtle*. To join mailing list send $10 to ABC, 872 Erie St, Oakl 94610. For mtg & group info: 465-8652.
**Dolores Street Baptist Church** (Southern Baptist) worship service at 11 am. Everyone welcome to a congregation where gay/lesbian and non-gay people worship openly together. Acceptance gay support group meets Tues, every two weeks. 208 Dolores St at 15th, SF. Info: 861-1434.
**Dignity/SF:** Gay & Lesbian Catholics, friends & families celebrate the Eucharist. Dignity's here for good! Dolores St Baptist Church, 15th & Dolores, SF. Sun 5:30 pm. Info: 255-9244.
**Dignity/East Bay:** a faith community of lesbian & gay Catholics, our families & friends. For times & locations call 995-2535. Also raps, social events.
**Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay** Concerns-SF: a supportive community of gay & non-gay Presbyterians who worship together: 5 pm 2nd Sun of month at (starting Jan) Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St nr 24th, SF. Also "Claiming Our Bible" study group, every 3rd Mon in Oakl; plus social activities & retreats. PL/GC works to educate & transform the church into a more loving & inclusive place. Info: Dick 338-7396, 268-9534 or Susan 282-3842.
**Lutherans Concerned/SF**: for lesbian & gay Lutherans, their friends & families. Meets 1st Sun of each month, St Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St nr Market, SF. 5:30 pm. All welcome. Info: 956-2069.
**Christian Women's** Support Group meets 4th Sat of each month. Inclusive language eucharist, potluck, fellowship. Info: Kris Wagner 534-5546, Bonita Palmer 647-8390.
**Metropolitan Community Church** (MCC) of SF: Sun worship services: 9 am, 11 am & 7 pm. AIDS ministry (see AIDS Resources), women's & men's groups, children's programming & educational series. Rev Jim Mitulski, pastor. 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 863-4434.
**Golden Gate MCC** Sun worship services: 12:30 & 7 pm, 48 Belcher St, SF. Info: 626-6300.
**New Life MCC** Sun worship service: 1823 9th St at Hearst, Berkeley. 12:30 pm. SIGN. WA. Info: 843-9355.
**MCC of San Lorenzo** meets at Christ Lutheran Church, 100 Hacienda St, San Lorenzo. Services Sun at 6 pm. AIDS Chaplaincy Team available. Pastor: Rev Jodi G. Safier. Info: 481-9720.
**Diablo Valley MCC** Sun worship service, 10 am, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Wed worship, 7 pm, followed by lay ministry courses at 8:15 pm. Info: 827-2960.
**MCC of the Redwoods** in Marin. 6 pm Sun worship service. Rev Coni Staff, pastor. 110 Magnolia Ave, Larkspur, CA 94939. Info: 927-2018.
**MCC Santa Rosa** meets 11 am at 3632 Airway Dr, Santa Rosa. All lifestyles welcome! Pastor JI Torres. Info: 526-HOPE.
**Russian River MCC** Sun worship service: Noon, 14520 Armstrong Woods Rd, Guerneville. Info: Rev Linda Laster (707) 869-0552.
**Charistmatic Fellowship**: support group for gay/lesbian charismatics/pentecostals in SF. Bible Study Fri 7:30 pm. For those tired of "straight" churches that reject because of sexual orientation & "gay" churches that deny the power & gifts of the Holy Spirit. Info: Rev Michael Arbuckle 921-3207.
**Hosanna Church of Praise,** a Christian church w/a special ministry to the gay & lesbian community. Emphasis on healing ministry, gifts of the Holy Spirit. Support of gay/lesbian causes. 10 am. First United Methodist Church Chapel, 24 N 5th St, downtown San Jose. Info: Rev. F. Randall Hill, (408)293-2437.
**Prince of Peace Community Church** of San Carlos meets 5 pm at Community United Church of Christ, 1336 Arroyo St, San Carlos. Emphasis on love, caring & concern for gay/lesbians & non-gay people. Rev Bob Wheatley, pastor; Rev Barbara Martzall, assistant pastor. Info: (408) 298-3548.
**Hartford Street Zen Ctr,** Zen Buddhist Meditation group in the Castro. Zazen daily, 6 am & 6 pm, Mon-Fri. Lecture 10 am Sundays. 57 Hartford St. Info: 863-2507.
**Trinity Episcopal Church:** traditional liturgy with liberal theology. Inclusive urban parish. Sunday Choral Eucharist, 11 am. 1668 Bush St nr Gough, SF. Rev Robert Cromey, rector. Info: 775-1117.
**Integrity SBA:** Gay & lesbian Episcopalians & friends celebrate & join in wkly fellowship, 5:30 pm Sun at St John's Church, 1661 15th St, SF. Integrity is an inclusive community involved with & in the Episcopal Church, with an outreach to the community thru an active AIDS ministry & special programs oriented toward the spiritual growth of gay/lesbian Christians. Info: 553-5270.
**Women-in-Integrity**: Women's focus Eucharist with potluck supper & socializing following service. Join us for fellowship, singing & a meal. Third Sun of each month at 5:30 pm, St John's Church, 1661 15th St, SF. Integrity is a lesbian & gay affirming community of Episcopalians & friends. Info: 553-5270.
**The Parsonage:** is an Episcopal ministry called to advocate justice for lesbian/gay people, and to witness to the Godliness of gay/lesbian love. Central location at 555A Castro St. Mtg space available for rent to 12-Step groups, AIDS support groups, advocacy groups & others. Info: 552-2909.
**Religous Society of Friends** (Quakers) Mtg for Worship: Sun, 11 am at 2160 Lake St at 23rd, SF. Friends for Lesbian & Gay Concerns holds monthly potluck, discussion & worship on the 4th Sun of every month, all are welcome. Info: Mary McCurry 738-2571.
**Affirmation: Gay & lesbian Mormons**. Social/support group for Latter-Day Saints, their families & friends. Wkly mtgs. Sun at 7 pm, MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 641-4554.
**Unitarian Universalists** for Lesbian & Gay Concerns of the First Unitarian Church of SF (UULGC/SF) meets 2nd Sun of every month at 12:15 pm, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St, SF. Spons variety of events & social functions for lesbians, gay men , bisexuals & friends. The Unitarian Universalist Church provides union services for lesbian & gay partners, has a significant number of openly gay clergy & a long history of support for lesbian/gay individuals & groups.
**Most Holy Redeemer** Roman Catholic Church, 100 Diamond St, SF. Mass: 5 pm Sat, 7 & 10 am Sun, wkdays at 8 am. Info: 863-6259.
**GALOC** (Gay & Lesbian Outreach Committee) of Most Holy Redeemer Church welcomes lesbians & gay men to MHR parish. Come join us! For info: 863-6259.
**Avatar Meher Baba:** gay & lesbian followers present meetings, discussion groups, social events. Info: Larry 441-7008.
**Eastern Orthodox** Holy Ascension Mission: divine liturgy Sun 10 am; vigil Sat 6:30 pm. Counseling, sick calls, funerals available. Monthly healing service. Chapel at 1671 Golden Gate #2, SF. Info: 563-8514.
**Radical Faeries:** an eclectic group of gay male witches, wizards, shamans, gypsies, sissies, hippies, Deadheads, pagans, anarchists, magicians, astrologers, you name it; who all share a common love for Mother Earth & celebrate gay male mysteries. Wkly Faerie circles meet Thurs eves at 8 pm, bring instruments & energy! 24-hr info line (Tele-Faerie): SF—(415) 626-3369, Santa Cruz—(408) 427-4545.
**Peace United Church of Christ:** friendly, inclusive, liberal Protestant church. Creative, shared leadership. Open to all. Sun 5 pm, 777 Oakland Ave, Oakl. Info: 834-8135. Also discussion, movie & service groups.
**The Church of Amron**, a metaphysical ministry, holds solstice services, healing circles, classes on yoga, metaphysics, channeling, ritual, affirmations, shaman drumming, & much more. 2254 Van Ness Ave at Vallejo, SF. For info call 775-0227.
**First Congregational Church**, United Church of Christ. Post & Mason Sts, SF. An open & affirming church that began ordaining gays in 1972. Services: 9 & 11 am, adult education at 9:45 am. Outstanding music program. Close to public transit, parking at Sutter/Stockton garage. Info: 392-7461.
**Tayu Fellowship:** a Fourth Way spiritual school. Sponsors study group—1st & 3rd Wed of month, 7:30 pm, 2524 Highgate Dr, Richmond, drop-in intro class includes yoga, relational meditation, etc. Also Tayu Yoga & Meditation on Sundays in Sebastopol. For info/directions call (707) 829-9579.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**Emerge!**, healing journal of Emergence, Int'l, an organization of Christian Scientists supporting lesbians & gay men. For subs/info: PO Box 581, Kentfield, CA 94914 or call 485-1881.
**Concord Spirituality Group**: rap/social for lesbians & gays exploring issues of spirituality, relationships & sexuality. Alternate Wed mtgs, 7-8 pm. Info: Infinity Store 827-4345.
**California Miracles Ctr**: dedicated to the study of "A Course in Miracles." Sun morning service at 11:00 am (all welcome). Principles of Healing Study Group: Sun at 9:30 am (all welcome). 2269 Market St at 16th, SF. "A Course in Miracles" Wed eve lecture, meditation & discussion at 7:30 pm at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin & Geary. Info: 621-2556.
**Spiritual Arts Church** of Religious Science: Sun, 5 pm at St Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St, SF. CC available during services. Office Hrs: Tues & Thurs, 10 am-5 pm at Notre Dame Plaza, 347 Dolores St, SF. Info: 255-8460.
**White Light Ministries**, a metaphysical, interfaith spiritual organization, meets for Sunday celebrations the first 3 Sundays of each month at 11 am at the Oakland Jewish Community Ctr auditorium, 3245 Sheffield Ave, Oakl; in an atmosphere of love & unconditional acceptance. Barrier-free acess for the differently-abled. Info: 521-1485.
**Lesbian Christian Group** with female-oriented outlook. Alternative worship service in Oakland. Small, informal group meets to praise Her together. Info/location: 532-3432.

## ► SPORTS

**SF Track & Field** : Practice sessions: Tues & Thurs eves at 6 pm, Sun at 10:30 am. All ages & levels of ability welcome! Info: Rick 626-8784.
**SF Water Polo** practices Thurs eves, 6:30-8:30 pm & Sun mornings 9-10:30 am at Coffman Pool, corner of Vistacion & Hahn, SF. Men & women of all ability levels welcome! Info: John 621-0783.
**SF Frontrunners** is a running club for lesbians & gay men. All levels welcome. Free runs: every Thurs at 6:30 pm, McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, SF, followed by dinner; Sat at 9 am, Stow Lake Boathouse, Golden Gate Park, followed by brunch; & every Sun at 10 am at various locations (see Main Calendar), followed by brunch. Come join our walking division at same time & place as Runs. Business mtgs/potlucks 1st Sat of each month (after Run). Info: Rod 621-2213.
**Eastbay Frontrunner's Club** sponsors noncompetitive runs in various Eastbay locations. Runs begin at 9:30 am, and are followed by brunch. Info: Roz 939-3579 or Greg 865-6792.
**SF Hiking Club:** join us for day trips, backpacking & social activities. See calendar listing for this month's schedule. For more info write: SF Hiking Club, PO Box 190973, SF 94119-0973 or call 285-1260 eves.
**Wilderness Women** offer monthly excursions for women. Day hikes & longer trips. Info: Wilderness Women, 5329 Manila Ave, Oakland CA 94618.
**Gay/Lesbian Sierrans**: escape the madness of the city, explore & appreciate the beautiful outdoors. GLS presents 1-3 hikes each week; plus monthly program on 3rd Tues of each month, 7:30 pm, Nat'l Sierra Club, Polk St at Ellis, SF. For SIGN, call TDD 776-8107. For info & free sample newsletter: 653-5012 (24-hrs).
**HiMA!**: Homosexuals in the Martial Arts: nationwide organization for men & women martial artists. All ranks & styles welcome & encouraged! Info/newsletter: HiMA!, 627½ Oak St, SF CA 94117.
**Golden Gate Wrestling Club** holds Olympic Freestyle Wrestling practices twice weekly. All weights, skill levels & ages welcome. Large facility, accessible to public transit. Info: Gene 821-2991 or Gary 558-9195.
**SF Wrestling Club**: all forms & wrestling styles; all ages, weights & experience levels welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721 for details.
**Gay Tennis Federation:** lesbian & gay tennis club. All levels of play welcome. Monthly mtg 7:30 pm, 3rd Mon of each month at Charpe's Grill, 131 Gough St, SF. Info: Tom Kelly 552-9595 or write: GTF, 2215-R Market St, Ste 109, SF CA 94114.
**BORP** (Bay Area Outreach & Recreation Program provides & promotes recreation, sports & fitness by & for physically disabled people: wilderness trips, wheelchair sports (sponsor of the local women's wheelchair basketball team—the Bay Area Meteorites), children & youth programs, older adults program. Info: 849-4663 voice/TDD.
**Out of Bounds** Golfing Club provides support & golf outings, encouragement & companionship to gay men & lesbians of all abilities who enjy golf. Info: 647-3687.
**Bay Area Women** at the Helm (BAWATH) is a lesbian boating club open to all SF Bay Area women actively engaged in boating. Sailing trips, picnics, brunches, skill-building classes & more. Info: write to BAWATH, c/o Natalie Zarchin, PO Box 3343, Oakland, CA 94609.
**Different Spokes, SF**: gay & lesbian weekend recreational rides & touring, for all levels. Call 282-1647 for weekly ride, bi-monthly mtg, & social events info.
**Motorcycle Club** for Black gay women. For info write: 1724 Sacramento St #6, SF 94109.
**Lesbian Motorcyle Group**: social riding club. Come see the sights with other lesbians, keep the wind on your face. Info: 532-8836.
**Women, Motorcycles & Coffee**: group for women motorcyclists & coffee lovers. Meet Sat 9 am-noon at Cafe Flore, Market/Noe, SF. Good company, food, drink. Meet new riding partners. Info: 826-6011.
**Dyke Divers** offers newsletter, networking for lesbian scuba divers. For info write PO Box 460096, SF 94146.
**Southbay Gay & Lesbian Volleyball** League. Call (408) 534-1239 for mtg times & other info.
**Gay Men's Basketball:** Sun at 6 pm, 100 Collingwood St, behind Cala Foods, 18th & Collingwood (in the Castro), SF. Info: Tony 621-2710.
**SF Tsunami**: Gay & Lesbian Masters Swim Club. Flexible swimmer program for the recreational or competitive swimmer. Program offers workouts for all skill levels with an on-deck coach 4 times per week. Info: Johnny Bonck 626-0561.
**Berkeley Swim Team**: spons swim workouts, competes in lesbian & gay swim meets. East Bay swimmers, novice thru experienced, are welcome to join! Info: Chris 654-9719.
**The Banshees** Lesbian Soccer Team: the only all-lesbian team in the Golden Gate Women's League. Call 841-5242 for info.
**Bay Area She-Hawks** Women's Rugby Club invites interested women of all skill levels to join a fun, competetive team. Info: (415) 386-1049 or (408) 736-2894.
**SF Women's Flag Football** League: meets Sun at 11 am & 1 pm (excluding major holiays), at either Louis Sutter Field or the Polo Field in Golden Gate Park, SF. For location & other info: Michelle Brodie 431-7636
**Castro Volleyball**: every Sun 8-10 pm at Eureka Valley Center, SF. Beginning to intermediate levels. Info: Tony Trevers 255-2781.

## ► SUPPORT GROUPS

**Loss, Grief & Recovery** support group for individuals grieving a death. Learn about normal grief, coping with feelings, caring for yourself, giving & receiving support, rearranging your life, exploring future options. Spons by Hospice by the Bay. Free. 1550 Sutter St (nr Octavia), SF. Info: 673-2020.
**Losing A Best Friend**: free pet loss support group spons by the SF SPCA for people who have lost an animal companion. Led by Dr Betty Carmack, the group helps pet owners work thru feelings of loss, anger & depression. 7:30-9 pm, 1st Mon of each month at the SF SPCA, 2500 16th St, SF. Info/res: 554-3000.
**Rap Group for Gay/Bisexual Men** at Pacific Ctr, Mon 7:45pm & Tues 8pm. Followed by coffee & social hour for Gay/Bi men. Men welcome to attend either/both activities. 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
**Bisexual Women's Rap:** you don't need to be bisexual but you MUST be female & willing to discuss bisexuality & related issues. WA & SIGN. Wed, 8-9:45 pm, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
**Feminist Bisexual Women's** Support Group: discussion & support for bisexual women who come from, but feel a little out of place in both the straight & lesbian communities. Mtg every other Sun afternoon in SF. Not a therapy group. Info 626-3910.
**Eastbay Feminist Bisexual** Support Group: Accepting, informal discussions & support. Meets 1st & 3rd Mon of each month, 7:30-9:30 pm in Berkeley. No fee. Info: Claire 549-9544.
**Eastbay Bisexual Feminist Women**. Support & social group. Info: Judith 528-5331.
**Bisexual Women's Group/Peninsula** South Bay: social & discussion group, call Liz 857-1044 for info.
**UC Berkeley Bi Rap** Group for bi women, men & friends. Support & social group. Info: Mark 644-8078.
**Bay Area Bisexual Network:** umbrella organization for bisexual groups, resources & people. Open to everyone, whether or not they consider themselves bisexuals. Info: 564-BABN.

**Judy Fjell and Crystal Reeves (plus Romanovsky & Phillips) perform in SF Dec 9.**

**North American Multicultural** Bisexual Network (NABN) acts as a clearinghouse for resources, AIDS info & political alerts. Focus on visibility, education, pride. For info contact NABN, 584 Castro St, #422, SF 94114 or call 775-1990.
**Bisexual Men's Support Group**: discussion of bisexual men's issues. Not a therapy group. Meets every other Sun 7:30-9:30 pm. Info/location: 626-3910.
**Bisexual Women's & Men's** Support Group: Drop-in on Sun at 7 pm. Pacific Ctr, Berk. Info: 841-6224.
**Marin Bisexual Women's** Support Group: meets 2nd & 4th Thurs in San Anselmo. Info: Cindy 456-4192.
**Gay Men's Support Group** meets 8-9:30 pm at 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, room 18, San Anselmo. Spons by Ministry of Light. Info: 457-0854 or 457-1115.
**Fundamentalists Anonymous mtg:** see Addiction Recovery.
**Overcoming Violent Behavior Anonymous:** SF group, see Incest & Battery.
**Women's Cancer Support Groups:** spons by Women's Cancer Resource Ctr, see Health.
**Married Gay & Bi Men's Rap** Group meets Wed at 8 pm, Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Drop-in. Info: 841-6224.
**Transvestites & Transsexuals** rap group (women & men): 1st and 3rd Wed and last Fri monthly, 8 pm, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
**TV/TS & Friends** Transgender Group meets 8 pm, last Thurs of each month. SF location. Info: 849-4112 or write ETVC, PO Box 6486, SF CA 94101. We're very active & friendly folks, call us!
**Female-to-Male** Crossdressers & Transsexuals Only Group. Newsletter & quarterly get-togethers. Info: FTM, 1827 Haight St #164, SF 94117.
**Gay Men's Support Group** in Fairfield. Raps & socials, Thurs 7:30-10 pm. Info: (707) 448-1010 or write PO Box 73, Fairfield, CA 94533.
**Lesbian Adoptees:** open group discussing issues around search, reunion, depression, anger, abandonment, identity, etc. Meets every other Sun in SF. Info: Amy 923-1454.
**Adoptees, Birth Parents** & Adoptive Parents support groups meet throughout the Bay Area. For info/locations: Post Adoption Center for Education & Research (PACER) 935-6622.
**Fat Dykes Support/Social** Group: meets twice monthly, once for potluck, once for discussion. Info: 569-5177, leave name, number, bit of info.
**Eastbay Lesbian S/M** Support Group: for all lesbians with a positive interest in s/m & leather. Lesbians only. Have a hard time resolving your politics, spirituality or feelings with being a lesbian & into leather: this group is for you! Call 654-1591 or write: POB 20365 Oakland 94620.
**Woman to Woman SM**: Join the Outcasts, an educational, support & social group for lesbian, bisexual & transsexual women interested in SM with other women. Info/membership: write POB 31266, SF CA 94131-0266.
**Eastbay Lesbian S/M** Support Group: for all lesbians with a positive interest in s/m & leather. 2nd Thurs of each month. 8 pm. Lesbians only. Have a hard time resolving your politics, spirituality or feelings with being a lesbian & into leather? Call: 654-1591 or write POB 20365 Oakl, 94611.
**S/M Lesbian** Support/Discussion group. No perfumes or scents. Info/location: 668-4622.
**Leatherdykes** Support/Discussion/Social Group meets 2nd Thurs of each month, 2 pm. A group of lesbian-identified lesbians into s/m & leather; positive & responsible about sexuality. Group practices safe & consensual s/m sex. For lesbians only. Info: 654-1591 Eastbay.
**Leather S/M Support Group** meets Mon 7:30-10 pm at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Open discussion group, with topics. Women & men welcome. Donation requested. Info: Gordon Jones 621-6786.
**Society of Janus:** educational, support & social club for those interested in consensual, safe, non-exploitative s/m. Open to women & men; straight, bisexual, lesbian & gay. Info: send SASE to Society of Janus, Dept CU, PO Box 6794, SF CA 94101 or call 848-0452.
**Oakland/East Bay Parents & Friends** of Lesbians & Gays (Parents FLAG) holds support groups for parents, relatives & friends of lesbian & gay people. Info: Betty McCall 547-4657.
**Berkeley PFLAG:** 1st Wed of each month. Info: Ann 486-0534.
**SF PFLAG**: 2nd Sun each month, 2 pm. Info: Mary 928-2748.
**Mid-Peninsula PFLAG** meets 3rd Thurs of each month. Info: Verda 854-0142.
**Diablo Valley PFLAG** meets every 3rd Tues, info: POB 2174, Martinez, 94553 or call 372-9014.
**Southbay PFLAG** meets 2nd Wed of each month, San Jose location. Info: Nancy (408) 270-8182.
**Marin PFLAG:** welcomes & supports parents, spouses, siblings, friends & lesbians & gays to its mtgs. 2nd Wed of every month. Info: 479-3535.
**Palo Alto Lesbian Rap** Group: discussion group for all lesbians. Meet Thurs 7:30 pm at the Palo Alto YWCA, 4161 Alma (just north of San Antonio), Palo Alto. Different topics each week, see Main Calendar for details. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.
**East Bay Lesbian Rap:** fun, relaxed atmosphere—come make new friends! Tues, 8-9:30 pm at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
**Lesbian El Support Group:** East Bay Environmental Illness support group. Info: MJ 536-7251, Mickey 843-2649, Maja 548-1549.
**Working Class Dykes** Writing Group: meets every other week. Write, read together, give support. You don't have to be published to join. Info: 569-5177, leave message.
**UC Berkeley Gay & Lesbian Alumni** Assoc: see Social Groups
**Stanford Gay & Lesbian Alumni** Assoc: see Social Groups.
**Christian Women's Support Group**, see Spirituality.
**Bay Area Sicilian & Italian** Lesbians (BASIL): una famiglia di donne meets monthly to provide support & address the cultural & political concerns of Italian American & Sicilian American lesbians, and the difficulties of resisting assimilation into Anglo culture. If you need a pasta fix, call Janet 654-3531 (Oakl) or Marisa 731-9302 (SF).
**Support Group for Women** who want to leave the sex industry meets Tues 4-5:30 pm. Drop-in center open Tues noon-4 pm. 942 Market St #307. Spons by Women Emerging. Info: 982-3365.
**Coming Out Group for Women** in the Eastbay. Women of all ages welcome. Info: 521-1383 (leave message).
**Women's Coming Out Group:** open to women of all ages, drop-in. Choose topics, make friends. 6 pm Wed at Pacific Ctr (newcomers come at 5:45 pm to meet facilitator). 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
**Slightly Older Lesbian** Support Group for lesbians over 30. Rap group meets 7:30 pm Thurs at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Long-running group. Info: 841-6224 or 548-8283 (leave message for SOL).
**Feminist Women in Recovery:** support group for women of all ages, ethnic backgrounds & sexual orientation (no s/m) who are in recovery. Info: Susan 864-5677.
**Gay Men's Sexual Phobia Group:** explore our chronic sexual phobias & dysfunctins. Focus on impotence & incest. For gay men under 40 years old. SF location. Info: write Sex Group, 584 Castro St, Ste 275, SF 94114-2588.
**MidLife Lesbian Support Group** meets Mon 6-8 pm in SF. Low-cost, SL fee. Spons by Options for Women Over Forty. Info: 431-6405.
**Small, Etc**, a club for men who are ashamed of their size, and other gay men who are "normal", but understanding. Group offers support, connection with others. For newsletter & other info send SASE to Small, Etc, PO Box 294, Bayside NY 11361.
**The Caring Coterie**: a group for men having environmental sensitivities. Share resources, remedies, & support in a "safe" and accessible Oakland space. Info: Ray 763-0235.
**Visualization/Problem Solving** Support Group: pool psychic resources to support one another & create change. Info: Margo Adair 861-6838.
**Gay Writers Support Group** & wkshop for gay men actively engaged in writing. Writers asked to submit 10 pages of their work. No fee. SF mtgs, 7:30-9:30 pm. Info: 861-2385.
**Men's Support Group for Foreskin** Restoration: meets at 4 pm every 1st Sun of the month. No fees or dues. BUFF and NOCIRC information available. Call Wayne 827-4077 for details.
**Siblings of a mentally ill** sister or brother support group: For lesbians & gay men who have mentally ill siblings. Talk about feelings of loss, anger, sadness & fear; discuss paying attention to our own needs. Info: 661-6379.
**Support Group for Battered Lesbians**, spons by WOMAN, Inc—see Incest & Battery.
**Lesbian Mothers/Persian Gulf Crisis**: support group for women with children in military service in the Persian Gulf. Gay fathers welcome. See Parenting & Family Resources listing for details.
**For More Listings** in the support group category, see *SF Bay Times'* classifieds in the "Open Exchange" therapy/support group section, under **"relationship therapy"**, **"recovery addiction"**, **"incest/battery therapy"**

## ► THERAPY GROUPS

**Women's Institute for Mental Health:** low-fee individual, couples & grou therapy. SL starts at $15. Lesbian-only groups available. Groups for women abused as children. Info: 864-2364. 333 Valencia St, SF, Ste 222.
**Disabled Lesbian Group** for women with physical disabilities, hidden disabilities, chronic illness & chronic pain. Wed & Thurs at Operation Concern. WA, SL. Info: 626-7000 voice/tty.
**Gay Men's Disabled Group:** are you a gay man with a physical/hidden disability? Isolated & in need of support/therapy? Call 626-7000 v/tty. Group held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF.
**Sexual Compulsive Group** for gay men: an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men whose sexual behavior is out of control. Monday eves at Operation Concern, SF. Info: Jim Fishman 626-7000.
**Grief Group** for those who have lost a loved one thru suicide. Deal with feelings of anger, confusion, guilt. Find strength, support. Meets wkly for 8 wks, lic therapist facilitates. Spons by SF Suicide Prevention. Info: 752-4866.
**Gay Men's Groups** at Operation Concern: new 12-wk process group starts each month. Safe place to develop your interpersonal relating skills. Preliminary interview required. Info: Operation Concern 626-7000.
**McAuley Neuropsychiatric Institute** at St Mary's Hospital & Med Ctr in SF offers a number of psychotherapy groups (eating disorders, incest survivors, single parents, women, etc) for individuals & couples. Wkly mtgs, SL fee. For info or to register: Helga Justman, LCSW 750-5603.
**Berkeley Free Clinic** peer counseling collective provides counseling for individuals & couples, also provides mediations. Info: 548-2570.
**Fort Help:** nonprofit center offers psychotherapy & counseling for a wide variety of life problems. Diverse staff includes lesbian & gay counselors. SL fees. For info/appt: 546-7779. 965 Mission St, Ste 520, SF.
**Lesbian Couples Therapy** at Operation Concern. Offers lesbian relationship therapy—this can include lovers, ex-lovers, family or friends. Low fee, sliding scale. MediCal accepted. 1853 Market St, SF. WA. Info: 626-7000 v/tty.
**Men—Have You Abused Your Lover?** Feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love most? MOVE offers help for gay & bisexual men who batter. See Incest & Battery section for details.
**For Additional Listings** in the **Therapy** category see *Coming Up*'s classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under the **"counseling"**, **"relationship"**, **"recovery addiction"** and **"incest/battery"** therapy headings.

## ► YOUTH

**Youth Rap!** Meet other young lesbians, gays, bisexuals (or wondering), age 22 or under, in a friendly, supportive group. Talk about sexuality, coming out, dealing with parents & friends. Speakers, videos, social events, etc. Thurs, 4-5:30 pm, 1700 Jackson St nr Van Ness Ave, SF. Info Rik or Holly 558-4801.
**Lesbian/Gay Social Group** for high-school age students. Info: Christin 554-7632.
**Youth Group for Gay/Bi** or ? Women & Men age 23 or under. Drop-in. Suggest topics, make friends. 1:30- 3 pm, Sat at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.
**Peninsula Gay/Lesbian Youth** Group discussion/social, Sun at 2 pm. Fireside Room, University Lutheran Church, 1611 Stanford Ave, Palo Alto. Info: 856-1144, or write POB 60782, Palo Alto, CA. Group is not church-affiliated.
**Slightly Younger** Lesbians & Gays, a social/support/activity group for men & women under 25. Meets every Sunday, 1-3pm, San Jose location. Info: (408) 293-4529.
**Gay Area Youth Switchboard:** see Hotlines & Referrals.
**LYRIC** (Lavender Youth Recreation Ctr): for lesbian, gay & bisexual youth. Dances, outings, newsletter, etc. Meetings held 2nd Sun of the month at 1853 Market St nr Guerrero, SF. Come meet other youth, have fun! Info: John W 626-7000.
**Young Gay Men's Rap Group** for those 23 & under. Fri 7-9 pm. Non-therapy rap group conceived & conducted by gay & bisexual men. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 826-2526.
**Young Lesbians:** weekly support group for those 25 & under, Santa Cruz location. Info: Valerie (408)427-3862.
**Peninsula Young Gay Men:** support group for gay men under 23 who live in the Northern Peninsula. Info: 979-8864.
**Join the GAY Group** (Growing American Youth) group, open to gay men & lesbians 23 & under. Meets 2nd & 4th Fri of each month, 7 pm, Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: 827-2960.
**"Jackson Street,"** meets weekly, Thurs from 4-5:30 pm. Are you lesbian, gay or bisexual, under 22? Looking for a group that's rap & therapy too? Want to talk about how to survive & deal with issues like coming out, sexual identity, survival, relationships, anxiety about AIDS & other health issues?—if you answered yes to one or all of the above questions, this group's for you! Come find support & help. Group facilitated by Ruth Hughes & Dave Johnson of Ctr for Special Problems. 1700 Jackson St, btwn Van Ness Ave & Franklin St), SF. Co-spons by CSP Minority Youth Program. Info: Ruth Hughes, 558-4801.
**Children of alcoholics/addicts** group for children of color, see Addiction Recovery.
**Prevention & Intervention Group** for adolescent drug & alcohol abusers. See Addiction Recovery.
**BAY** (Bay Area Youth) Positives Group for young people with HIV. See AIDS Resources for details.
**California Runaway Hotline** provides services to young people who need help, want someone to talk to, or want to send a message to their parents. See Hotlines & Referrals.
**Rainbow's End:** Lesbian/Gay Youth Group. Open to ages 14-21. Thurs eves at 7 pm. 1000 Sir Francis Drake, room 12, San Anselmo, Marin. Info: 457-1115.
**Rap Group** for gay, lesbian & bisexual youth, 21 & under. Explore issues of sexuality, coming out, relationships & more in a supportive environment. Meet other gay youth & youth who are exploring their sexuality. Group meets Fridays, 6:30-8 pm, Community Living Room, 28 W 37th Ave, San Mateo (very accessible, cross street is El Camino Real, very near Hillsdale exit off route 101). Info: 572-0535.

# BEAT THIS

BY DON BAIRD

Photo by Marc Geller

*Missy, Phill Ford and Doris Fish grace the stage at the Fish extravaganza*

## Who Does That Bitch Think She Is?

Over the last month I've been exceptionally pleased with the overall response to my October column, "What about drugs?" Not only have I received praise and commendation for speaking out in a positive way on drug use, an issue that certainly places some sort of wedge in the gay community, but so many people have been approaching me with lit joints lately that I just couldn't be happier! And of course, I couldn't conceal my own personal glee when Frank Jordan, pictured shaking hands with *moi* in Geller's photo collage that ran with the column, resigned as S.F. Chief of Police. But when William Bennett, Drug Czar with a finger pointing to Satan, resigned also, I started feeling a bit superior. I somehow feel that L.A. Chief of Police Daryll Gates, whom I also mentioned, may not be long for his uniform if this coincidental wave continues. William Bennett has already been named head of the republican party, so whatever happens, you know the bad guys will always end up in a clean fresh spot in the super power circle jerk. I guess the war on drugs gets called off when a real war comes along, and so many people are so close to shooting.

Before moving on, I would also like to thank Christina Winter for the charming letter, (*S.F. Bay Times,* Nov. 1990). "This is My Brain on Drugs," which expressed that same perturbance with intolerance from peers regarding personal use of drugs that is so honestly tired and judgemental. Cristina also posed the question, "Why was Don Baird watching Geraldo?" It's simple, I was incredibly stoned, and Channel 2 no longer shows Big Valley at 2 a.m. any more.

The wonderful world of music was turned on its ear recently by a couple of events, most notably the Milli Vanilli scam. Isn't that a scream! Imagine lipsynching all of those live shows and then claiming themselves better than anyone else in the history of popular music during their acceptance speech for the Best New Group Grammy award! I was suspicious about whether their dreadlocks were really connected or just part of their hats when I saw their first video, but their music was of such little consequence that I didn't and still don't care who sang on it. The best thing about it all is the fact that the Grammies folks have egg on their face, but they always have really. After all, Toto has won a Grammy once. Has Madonna? And honestly, was that Jethro Tull album that beat Jane's Addiction's "Nothing's Shocking" as the Best Heavy Metal Album two years ago really even heavy metal? The Grammies have been retardo city for years, and worthy artists should just refuse nominations. It's an ugly little statue anyway. As for those two exotically sexy pawns/fuckpigs of the industry, I suggest they explore their more underground, artsy selves by getting in touch with the fabulous Lypsinka, an artist proud of her abilities, for an apprenticeship. She'd definitely have a few things to tell them about wigs too. Fabrice is a natural drag name, and Robert could just add an "a" to the end of his name, or they could be Fabsinka and Robsinka or even The Sinkholes. Who knows, if all goes well, those Miss Vanilli things could be doing Diana Ross, Patti Labelle, and Evelyn Champagne King at Colossus in no time. Gus Bean take note.

The other music related news of note is the "coming out" of Pete Townsend, leader of The Who. He didn't just come out as gay, he came out as a woman. He understands both roles. It sort of makes him the Linda Hunt of rock and roll. Yeah, right Pete. What it really makes you is a bottom, the role heterosexual males who occasionally make it with other males usually are just dying to play, and usually excel at vehemently. Pete, bless his heart, came out as openly bisexual, and he undoubtedly did it for good reasons, but the quotes I read were clumsy and slightly offensive. I mean, taking it up the ass isn't all one needs to understand the "gay life" as Pete claims he does, although it is important. But you *know* he meant well, and you know a little bit more about the song "I'm a Boy" and what it all meant. The early Who ditty is a lament of a boy whose mother and sisters dress him as a girl and won't admit he's a boy and punish him for saying so. This gender-switching sensitivity was squelched early on by the more macho rocker persona the band developed—smashing instruments, trashing hotels, making the Guinness Book as the loudest band, etc. If it hadn't, imagine the song "Baba O'Riley." Instead of the chorus "it's only teenage wasteland," it could be "it's only teenage make-up," and at the end Roger Daltrey, could scream, "We're all made-up!" I wonder who got to ride Pete's "Magic Butt." Probably the usual suspects: Bowie, Jagger, Little Richard and that woman/super-groupie who wrote the book *I'm with The Band*.

I would've loved to have heard Pete deliver his famous quote, "I know how it feels to be a woman because I am a woman," in front of the all-star drag-o-rama cast who put on the recent benefit/tribute for Doris Fish last month. They'd have laughed the paint right off their teeth. Entitled "Who Does That Bitch Think She Is," the two hour extravaganza packed the Victoria Theater to the rafters, and thousands of worshippers were turned away at the door. Some had walked there on their knees all the way from Esta Noche with only broken high heels and old eyeliner pencils to offer up as gifts or tokens of

*(continued on next page)*


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## Beat This...

love for their living Saint Doris Fish.

It was a stunning night of glamour-tainment and Doris looked absolutely every inch a star's Star, the epitome of ultra-beauty, a glow of perfection, huge. Highlights of the show were many: Phil Ford in his finest form to date doing an autobiographically modified version of "Is That All There Is?" an undeniably epic videotape of Doris lypsynching a number at the Oasis so furiously that she threw herself off the ten-foot stage backwards onto the audience, who managed to toss her back up so she didn't miss a single note, and Connie Champagne in a blonde wig sang the theme from The Valley of The Dolls, while Tippi, Miss X and another beauty lolled around on a bed as if they'd all had perhaps too many "dolls." Of course, what moment could possibly transcend Doris' surprise performance? She did her infamous "This Is My Life" number, during which slides of her many faces were projected onto her flowing white gown while she emoted and even cartwheeled through the song like Patti Labelle on peroxide and amphetamines.

Speaking of projected images, one of the most touching and poignant segments of the evening was the fantastic slide presentation of Doris through the years, put together by and featuring the work of Daniel Nicoletta. Brilliant images of Doris flew by to the tune of Carly Simon's "Nobody Does It Better." It was a phenomenal collection, and I cried and cried and cried.

Perhaps the most powerful moment of pure theater magic, the moment of awe that brought the audience to their feet for the only non-Doris standing ovation of the night, was when Bambi sang the national song of Australia, Doris' homeland, "Waltzing Matilda." Never has Bambi's formidable talent and strength as an artist rang more true. She was breathtaking, another absolute star. And Doris? I think the words of Miss X say it all. "She is a goddamn Saint."

Now to jump all the way to the other end of the drag spectrum, I saw Elvis Herselvis at Female Trouble on the night before Thanksgiving. There's nothing like seeing a lesbian crowd swooning over Elvis with the same hysterical abandonment of The King's original teeny-bopper fans, and Lee Crowe *is* Elvis, draping scarves monogrammed "EH" around the necks of screaming fans, sneering and shuffling, pointing and posing, even sweating slightly like Elvis. It was an exemplary night at Female Trouble, which, by the time this hits the stands, will have enjoyed its final Wednesday night of fun.

Nancy Kravitz, club creator, says it's been fun. In Female Trouble's two-plus years in operation, it has not only provided a venue for a lot of local lesbian acts to play and flourish, but arguably set the tone for the first of many alternative music clubs that sprung up in Female Trouble's wake, helping to define a virtually new gay scene in S.F. This club will be sorely missed, but the ever-industrious Ms. Kravitz is never one for sitting still, and I expect she has something up her sleeve planned for the clientele she's developed. To Nancy, killer DJ Stephanie Phillips, and doorperson/head of the Top Ten Most Wanted Lesbian List, Lulu, here's one giant thanks for the fistloads of fun.


AT THE END UP, 6TH & HARRISON...

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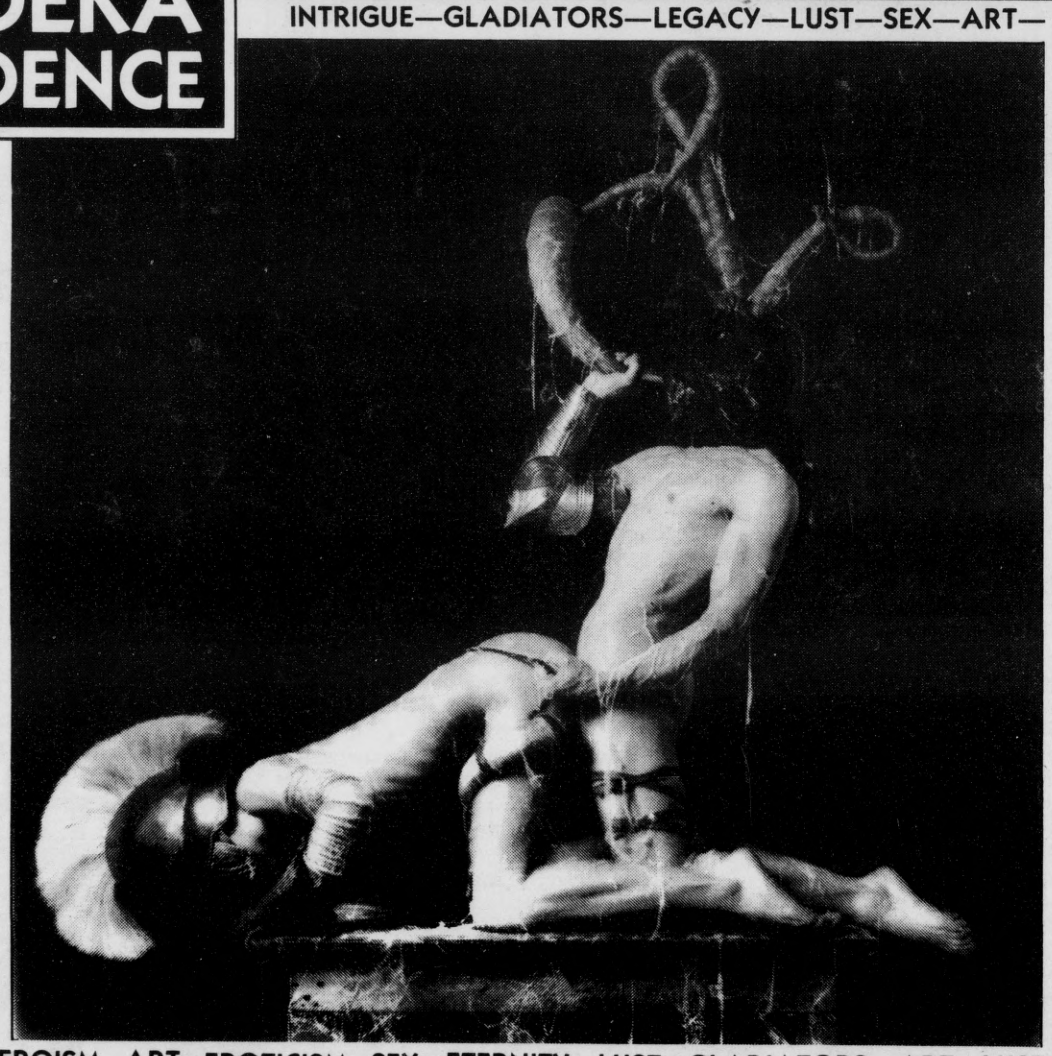

LEGACY—HEROISM—ART—EROTICISM—SEX—ETERNITY—LUST—GLADIATORS

—ART—INTRIGUE—GLADIATORS—LEGACY—LUST—SEX—ART

HEROISM—ART—EROTICISM—SEX—ETERNITY—LUST—GLADIATORS—ART—LUST

D.J. Sam LaBelle

with Bugy Matsushita

Dekadence pays tribute to the works of Erwin Olaf


## Queer...

*(continued from page 5)*

they listen and are sensitive. Yet he still would not say the group is "doing well" on the issue. Knapper also says he gets frustrated with always having to educate others about their racism. Knapper says there were more people of color in the group at first, but many dropped out for the same reasons they drop out of other white lesbian/gay organizations. "There are people of color who are queer, and we feel excluded, because we are excluded. Most of us don't beat our heads against the wall when we perceive that we are not wanted." Knapper says, "I have even seen it happen in Queer Nation where people of color come in and the only people who talk to them are other people of color."

Knapper, however, is sticking around, as is the rest of United Colors, and they will be hosting a forum on racism on December 5.

For many women, Queer Nation appears a little less alienating. LABIA member Amy Hill says that simply being in Queer Nation with a bunch of other queers has made her that much more self assured in being an out lesbian. "Plus it is wonderful to be working in an environment where there are gay and lesbian people working together. Sometimes I get the feeling that the men do not understand all of the women's issues, but I get the feeling that they are willing to listen and support them. That is really good."

Not all the women are as comfortable as Hill. Some only go to LABIA meetings because they don't feel their voices will be heard in a large meeting, or they don't want to deal with the men in the group. But, it is also true that other women feel comfortable enough in Queer Nation that they do not feel they have to belong to LABIA, the primary women's focus group.

Gretchen Schuster does feel that everyone's voices and ideas get heard with equal priority, but she still says traditional sex roles abound. "Gays and lesbians may do it differently from the straight population... perhaps [sex roles] are played with more, but gender roles are still there."

### QUEER ACCOLADES

Judging from the response to *SF Bay Times* inquiries, Queer Nation has the support of a good portion of the city's gay and lesbian mainstream leadership. Supervisor Harry Britt likens the group to the 1970s' Bay Area Gay Liberation. Supervisor Carol Midgen calls them "a fantastic dynamic new force in the lesbian/gay community, and I applaud them and welcome them." Norman Nickens, a Human Rights Commission attorney, says, "They are serving a positive role in bringing some humor back into the community and tackling serious issues in a way that is not frivolous, but does have a sense of fun about it." T.J. Anthony of supervisor Richard Hongisto's office, says, "They confront homophobia and bigotry head on."

One of Queer Nation's biggest boosters is Eric Rofes, executive director of Shanti. "What I love about Queer Nation and the concept of queerdom, is that those of us who live our lives with a sense of being the other in this culture, with a deep sense of alienation surrounding that outlaw sense, can make a political connection to this primal life experience." Rofes broadly defines queer as those who feel pushed out and left out: bisexuals, Blacks, those of mixed heritage, the deaf, anyone who does not, cannot, or will not fit in.

Rofes believes that Queer Nation is still full of contradictions between its reformist and revolutionary elements, but he knows which vision he supports. "I would rather see Queer Nation demonstrating to keep us out of a war in Iraq, rather than working to make it possible for gays and lesbians to kill Arabs in the Middle East in a racist imperialist war."

"I would like to see Queer organizing be gay liberation 1990 style," says Rofes. That is not so far from Karl Knapper's dream. "Queer Nation people are not ready to accept a few crumbs of tolerance and acceptance. We want it all! I think Queer Nation will be able to achieve this fantasy where people don't care if I am black or gay. I really think Queer Nation can be a part of making that happen."

# CABARET

## Lisa Gray at the Blue Muse

Exciting new talents are few and far between. But for the first time in over a year I'm delighted to report that there's a bright, fresh cabaret singer in our midst who is, to put it mildly, simply terrific.

Originally from New York City, Lisa Gray is a member of Menage. She's been singing at The Blue Muse on Saturday nights but will take December off for some holiday gigs with Menage. You can catch her solo act in January at the Muse's intimate cabaret corner just off the bar. She already has a devoted following, so best get there early or make a reservation. When Lisa sings even the usually noisy bar quiets down.

Accompanied by Pat Parr, this vocalist offers a repertoire that is remarkably eclectic—some pop, some Broadway, a dollop of CW and a smattering of blues. There's an aura of ingratiating accessibility about this singer, but what really sets her apart from a score of others is her total focus on her music. She doesn't just sing lyrics, she *is* the song.

Lisa opened one set with an elegantly phrased "Them There Eyes," and moved on through a lilting "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter," a sentiment-rich " 'Tis Autumn," and the quiet heartache of James Taylor's "Millwork."

Accompanying herself on the guitar, she sang a medley of lullabyes with a clean, no-nonsense delivery that was reminiscent of Joan Baez. In a romantic vein, she sang Rodgers and Hart's "My Romance," the current hit from *City of Angels*, "With Every Breath I Take," "Teach Me Tonight," and "Love Letters Straight From the Heart," managing to make the latter sound less sentimental than it actually is. The many-faceted Ms. Gray also caressed the insinuatingly sexy lyrics of "Peel Me A Grape," a straightforward country-western-flavored "Too Soon to Tell," "On My Own" from *Les Miz* and "Home" from *The Wiz*.

She'll be back at The Blue Muse on Fridays in January. She's mesmerizing. What more can I say?

*—Gene Price*

Photo by Virginia Morgan

*Lisa Gray*

## McNight: The Diva

Since her nomination for a 1988 Tony award (and such attendant honors as a portrait by master caricaturist Hirschfield), Diva McNight has moved her base of operations to Los Angeles. She returned recently for her annual concert at the Great American Music Hall.

One of the best shows, it featured lots of new material and a smattering of oldies but goodies. Looking remarkably svelte (elegant black dress, hair fluffed to a fare-thee-well), she was funny, touching, in good voice (when is she not?) and intermittently raunchy for her predominantly gay audience. Shaking off the glitzy afterglow of an appearance in a Broadway show, this Diva is now focusing on the here and now.

McNight is unmistakabley one of the most energetic and versatile talents on the cabaret stage today. Her spontaneity allows her to take complete control of any situation. A shout of "I love you" from a balcony groupie brought her quick rejoinder, "Have we ever made love before?" Though it's hard to imagine her ever not being "on," her quiet, behind-the-scenes dedication to women's rights and gay and lesbian causes is well known. A former honorary co-chair of the AIDS Emergency Fund and a performer at hundreds of AIDS benefits, her political stance is not a secret to her concert fans. A tireless spokesperson for liberal causes, she tells them *how* to vote. And sometimes the message is inherent in the music. (Introducing one number as honoring the reunification of Germany, McNight launched into an outrageously funny, off-key burlesque of Dietrich. Titled "Just put on a German accent" the song was a re-vamp of the pop hit "You Are the Wind Beneath My Wings," and the lyrics, "You are contempt beneath my feet" addressed themselves to Jesse Helms.

"One Last Prince for Me," Rick Crom's ballad of unrequited longing was McNight's sweet lament for a prince who "surely must exist." One of the best of her new songs, this one will probably find its way into her projected new album. A pair of Craig Carnelia tunes (also candidates for the album), "The Things I Learned in High School" and "The Picture in the Hall" are particularly fine additions to her repertoire. A chilling, ethereal "I Am Calling You" (theme from *The Bagdad Cafe*) was followed by Quincy Jones' "Sister" (*The Color Purple*), a vocal feat of supercharged energy.

For a tour-de-force encore Diva McNight reprised her now famous 10-minute version of the entire Wizard of Oz (singing all parts from Garland to Billie Burke to the Wicked Witch of the West and the Mayor of Munchkin City). The applause was overwhelming.

Reviewing a Sharon McNight concert is a little like trying to describe a tornado while sitting in the "eye." From moment to moment you don't know what direction it will take. Not just a vocalist, she's a musician, a storyteller, and above all, a compelling presence. She swings from vulnerable innocence to vampy tramp. She's self-deprecating, demanding, funny, sensitive, and occasionally rude. And she doesn't give a damn. She is what she is, take her or leave her. The 600 fans at the Great American Music Hall couldn't get enough.

Michael Orland was musical director. After much coaxing he did his Barbra Streisand impression. But I blinked and missed it.

*—Scott Cady*

## Ruth Hastings & Co.

Ruth Hastings is back, and this local cabaret legend, in a recent two-night benefit for the Encore Theatre Company, proved that she's as dynamic and popular as ever. Teamed, once again, with her musical family, Craig Jessup on vocals and Barry Lloyd on keyboards, she still captivates an audience with a repertoire of fifteen years of musical memories. If the local cabaret scene doesn't pull itself out of the doldrums, it won't be the fault of this triumvirate of troubadors.

With her characteristic grin, she related how, during the recent golden age of cabaret performing (was it only a decade?), audiences were understandably confused as to who in the trio was married to whom. Having taken a sabbatical to raise a son in an orange grove in the San Joaquin Valley, Ruth and husband Craig are definitely back on the scene. Young Craig Robert, who performed recently in Marin Theatre's *Lemon Sky*, made a cameo appearance toward the end of the evening. Is there a quartet in the trio's future? (For those not currently up on the Hastings' menage, Ruth and the two Craigs live in Larkspur where they operate a country store called the Jessup Orange Works, selling honeys, quilts, folk art, giant black olives, homegrown oranges from the Jessup ranch, and a superb homemade orange ice cream!)

Focusing intently on each other, Ruth and Craig reprised one of their big signature numbers, the hypnotic anthem, "Rhythm of Life," from *Sweet Charity*. Craig delivered a sizzling solo on Gershwin's "Sweet and Low Down," followed by Ruth's somewhat surprisingly naive interpretation of Cole Porter's "Down in the Depths on the Ninetieth Floor"—not her best effort when a slip of memory caused a brief loss of focus. But then the whole evening was less a formal concert than a group of close friends on a nostalgia trip. Accompanist Barry Lloyd, who has backed Ruth's dramatic presentations of Brel's "Alive and Well" for more years than either care to remember, played Gershwin's charming "Isn't it a Pity?" with an overly dramatic attack that tended to cover the melody's lyric simplicity.

Ruth's "Come in from the Rain" was dedicated to "one of the really beautiful people in the world," Chuck Lewis, for his endless nighttime crusade to help the less fortunate. The singer then introduced a set of what she is best known for, the all-stops-out, emotional interpretations of Jacques Brel and Piaf songs. "And We're Sure to Meet Again" brought back sentimental memories and led into a series of World War II songs that included "The White Cliffs of Dover," "I Left My Heart at the Stage Door Canteen," and a tribute to Vera Lynn, "A Nightingale Sang in Barkley Square," (the latter simply sung to great effect). A calliope-like march, "Bless Them All" was particularly emotional, and Ruth ended the set with a ballad from her 1979 Geary Theatre concert to remind us that she has survived even the devastation of the site of her biggest concert. She's still here!

It was one of those happy-sad evenings. But that's what Ruth Hastings and Company is all about. Yes, Ruth cried once—a record low I was later informed. But she wasn't the only one there who shed a tear.

*—Scott Cady*


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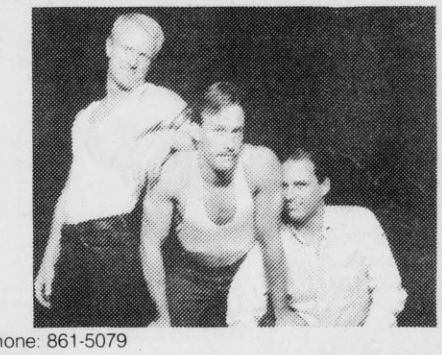

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# PERFORMANCE

BY RACHEL KAPLAN

## Promising to Appear

### Tim Miller; Footwork's Edge Festival

Tim Miller is one of the "NEA Four," a performance artist who was denied funding by the NEA this summer. Which makes him, according to our government, a "dangerous" artist. Tim Miller talks about being a gay man, an artist, and an AIDS activist. Which is surely dangerous in a culture that wants gay men, artists and activists to disappear. What is perhaps most "dangerous" about Miller is his total commitment to telling his stories, for his own sake, and for the sake of his community. Quite simply, Tim Miller is a cultural historian who documents the time in which he lives to insure its place in history. His commitment to remembering his cultural moment is aimed at making it impossible for he and his community to disappear.

Tim Miller performed *Stretch Marks* as part of Footwork's Edge Festival. Part Four of an autobiographical cycle of performances Miller has been creating over the past nine years, *Stretch Marks* is a piece of performance art, in the truest sense of the term. It's not dance, or theatre or poetry. It is a playful and serious work that uses no narrative, and nothing but simple, symbolic props to create its scenarios. Miller shifts characters, locations and voices often as he tells his stories.

I watched Tim Miller quite carefully during this performance, taking notes on how performance art can be made. He kept telling stories about himself that eventually circled around larger metaphors. He moved quickly from one character to another with a simple change of clothes, or with a move to another space in the room. He set his stage with simple props—cutouts of boats, planes he pinned to a clothesline, a towel, book and a bag he pinned to the back black curtain (to represent Venice Beach), a birthday cake with three candles. A wooden box doubled as both the mayor's office in Alta, California and a soapbox from which he delivered an impassioned speech in front of the L.A. County Hospital. I listened to the flow of his words, and for the most part, followed him everywhere he went.

Too many stories get told in *Stretch Marks* for me to do them any justice in the retelling. *Stretch Marks* uses the metaphor of an 8,000 mile train journey as the organizing principle for stories about personal connection, about growing up, about the passage of people, and the tenuous hold we have on our lives. "I'm used merchandise," Miller says. "And there's a hole in my heart, left there from the untimely death of friends and family." Miller uses the train journey metaphor to apply the small stories of his life to "the bigger picture," an acknowledgment of passage.

*Stretch Marks* is performance with an overtly political agenda, Miller's commitment to chronicle his life as a gay man and the life of his community. *Stretch Marks* interfaces personal and public histories as it comments on social reality. It makes its points with subtlety and humor. Miller talks about his lesbian teacher, Fraulein Rodriguez, who taught him how to conjugate the "irregular form of the verb to be" in German. By the third time he has slipped that detail in—"the irregular form of the verb TO BE"—I get it. The implications of this "irregular form" for a gay man, for an artist, for any member of Queer Nation, are quite profound.

The strongest passages in *Stretch Marks* are about AIDS and the struggle ACT UP is engaged in around AIDS funding. They come directly from Miller's experiences with ACT UP/LA. Miller approaches the wooden box as he sets a stage for the week-long vigil outside L.A. County Hospital in which activists demanded an AIDS ward. And he begins to speak to the crowds from this soapbox. Bag of sand and knife in hand, he delivers an impassioned speech about the need to fight—"because silence actually does equal death, and action actually does equal life. These are not metaphors and there's not much time left"—as he stabs the bag and the sands run out. He alludes to "a whole new cultural time ... beginning right now..." He shows, in a simple and direct way, the real resistance being created by members of ACT UP against the policies of our government.

Miller is an artist whose community and whose life is threatened by AIDS and by government neglect. And is he is well aware of the disappearing trick our government is playing on him. In light of the recent attack by the NEA, Miller's work is even more urgent and his message more poignant. But what is shocking about Tim Miller is how *not* shocking he really is. The man tells stories about his life in a way that is personal and intimate. They aren't even racy stories, except he does have a boyfriend, not a girlfriend, and he does talk about him. Sometimes he's funny. He likes being alive. Period. This obviously makes him an agent against the state. Why can't I seem to remember things like this?

True, he makes commentary on the fuck up of sex and gender, on imperialism, and the criminality of our erstwhile leaders, but what else is there to talk about? I have to remember the very real' threat that talking about AIDS, or just being gay, poses to the freaked-out legislators of "truth" and "justice" who are running our country (right into the ground). In Bush's America, Tim Miller's performance *is* dangerous because of its righteous hold on its own truth, and his continued commitment to telling it.

The farce around NEA funding interprets the work of Tim Miller as "obscene." I never expected to see anything *really* obscene, like Jesse Helms foaming at the mouth while doing his impersonation of an art critic, or thousands of troops storming the deserts of the Middle East, but the reality of how very unthreatening Tim Miller really is points to some serious problems of interpretation and power in America.

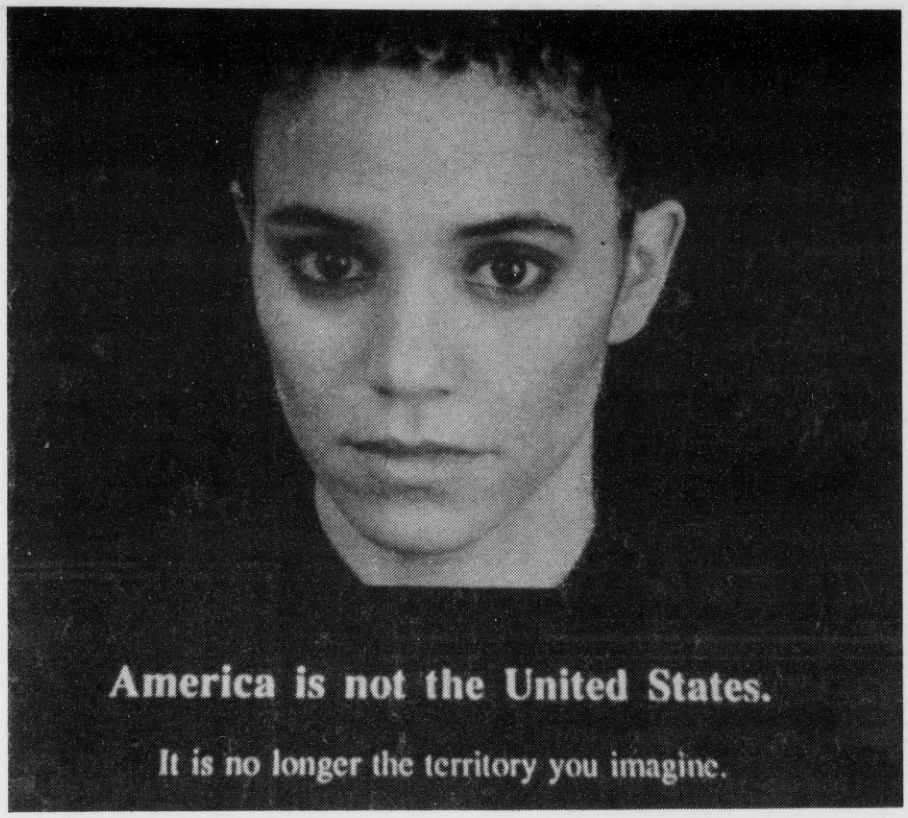
The final story in *Stretch Marks* is about an abandoned train in an old train yard that Miller coaxes out of its ancient stillness. *Stretch Marks* ends with the continuation of the travel metaphor, this action=life metaphor. Despite all the noise in the background of Miller's performance—which makes me expect a truly subversive art—what *Stretch Marks* is really about is the righteous hold we have on life. And if that's subversive...so be it.

## The Border Patrol

### Norte Sur
### Mexican Museum, Fort Mason

In a recent essay, Guillermo Gomez-Pena wrote: "Check it out. America is a continent, not a country," and with those seven words, summed up the agenda of his work. Gomez-Pena is an artist living on the border—the border between the United States and Mexico, between art and politics, between monoculture and multiculture. In a recent collaboration at the Mexican Museum with Coco Fusco, a New York performance artist, and visual artists Rene Yanez, Mind's Eye Productions and Jack Davis, *Norte Sur*, leaned toward a deep realization of this statement.

*Norte Sur* was a complex, extremely intelligent inter-disciplinary project composed of an audio-visual installation, a gallery display, a radio show and a live performance by Gomez-Pena and Fusco. I attended the October 18 performance.




The exhibit hung in the gallery until November 25.

*Norte Sur*, the performance, began with a bus ride in an overly decorated bus (courtesy of Galeria de la Raza). Most people paid a dollar or so to enter the bus (after paying the entrance fee of $10), but not everybody got on. We were treated to a tour of the Fort Mason parking lot as Gomez-Pena spoke rapidfire Spanish into a megaphone. He pointed out the parking spots of San Francisco's rich and famous (in the Fort Mason parking lot) and made commentary on the owners. The tour ended as we circled Building C and returned to Building D.

I was aggravated by my lack of Spanish, and felt like an irresponsible gringo by the end of the ride—which, I imagine, was a good part of the point of the untranslated Spanish. Gomez-Pena's acknowledgements of border consciousness have to do with who is out and who is in, how information is created, and how that affects consciousness.

Curiously, the bus ride was never referred to again during the evening, nor was it explained why people had to pay more money for the ride or why some people got on and some didn't. But both of those situations allude to a border reality: not everyone gets on the bus, and people can be duped into spending money on nearly anything that looks good. That's a USIA (United States in America) legacy.

As we enter the gallery, Gomez-Pena is taking polaroid shots of Fusco and willing audience members. People shell out more money for this luxury item, but they get to keep the picture. The gallery was filled with artifacts ranging from statues of Jesus Christ and the Virgin of Guadalupe, to bottles of Maestro Limpio (Mr. Clean) and a collection of kitsch art objects from the "gringo folkart collection of Yolanda Lopez." One display— Kellogg's Corn Flakes, refried beans, and microwavable churros— was labeled "middle-class Salvadorean breakfast from the Christiani period," a well-aimed archaeological arrow.

The back room of the exhibit housed a series of objects behind glass, all labeled "Authentic Art." They ranged from cheap, garishly painted Christmas ornaments to a small statue called "The Sock in the Menudo," a family scene of dad pulling a sock from the dinner pot. Scattered throughout the rooms were paintings on black velvet, my favorite being "Yuppie Bullfighter, Mexico City."

I'd like to list every object I saw—they were so witty and pointed in their critique of art consciousness, and ethnocentric American consciousness. A concern of *Norte Sur* was with "authenticity", what is perceived to be "high" and "low" culture, and how that has to do with the valuation of white culture over the culture of people of color. Gomez-Pena's work often refers to this dualism, tearing it apart by using objects from "low" culture (Salvadorean breakfast) in situations of "high" culture (white-walled gallery), which forces the viewer to re-evaluate her standards of "art." The exhibit in the Mexican Museum was a challenge, both to the status quo of art in a museum setting, and to Anglo assumptions about what art is. "*Norte Sur* compels us to ask ourselves about the way art is usually displayed and about what cultural values are expressed through it," reads a wall in the gallery.

Gomez-Pena and Fusco presented a 25-minute "performance ritual" accompanied by a state-of-the-art slideshow that elaborated on these themes. Dressed as an "Indian" in a feathered headdress and gold loincloth, Gomez-Pena writhed through

*(continued on page 49)*

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# THEATRE

## One Fool

REVIEWED BY RANDY TUROFF

There was a screw-up, some permit problems at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, so Terry Baum's show was two weeks late. And it's unfortunate, because I would have liked to have been able to recommend this show in time for a larger audience to have enjoyed it. She's a wonderful performance artist and she's unique. She's got lesbian humor tuned to an art.

This season, the town's been absolutely glutted with solo performances, but few, if any, connected directly to the lesbian community. In a town which is beginning to come out strongly for lesbian visibility in politics, we're still way behind in giving the wider forum to lesbian artists. Lesbian writers, performers, painters and journalists are still very much confined in their outreach capability. Performers like Terry Baum could easily have been integrated into the Solo Mio series, which not unlike other large audience-drawing events in San Francisco, failed to take the tastes of the lesbian community into any account at all.

Baum was the founder of Lilith, the San Francisco Women's Theatre of the late '70s. After leaving Lilith, she began to hit the European circuit. Her plays have been published and produced internationally, and she's been touring with her solo pieces since 1985. This latest piece, a revised version of the original *One Fool*, was engendered while Baum was in Amsterdam performing in a Dutch cabaret.

*Terry Baum's back doing things with her coat rack in "One Fool."*

The new script is tight, but also has a real spontaneous quality to it which harkens back to Baum's roots in improvisation. It's a very funny show. Baum is an audience pleaser. She also has a raging wild time on stage herself. The routine where she uses a coat-rack to represent her girlfriend was pure lunacy. And what she does with those panties nailed to the rack is thoroughly outrageous.

Baum has a Chaplinesque feel to her work. She's a clown, a mime, and an astute monologist. In one way she represents everyperson in her universality. But on another level she is pure dyke. All of those markers of lesbian life punctuate the show. Finding the San Francisco community too small after a major break-up, the heroine decides she's got to leave for Europe. At least in Amsterdam, every woman she meets won't be her ex-lover's sister or her lover's ex-sister. Like she says, she's ready for a change: "I know I'll go to Europe to be insulted in languages I've never heard before."

The character Baum creates is lovably neurotic. The matrix of the work: "I need to be loved" is played to the hilt. On one level there's an incredible struggle, comically played out, to achieve self-acceptance. On another more neurotic level, all the manifestations of neediness are acted out with wit, and warmth and total obsessiveness. Her sexual desperation culminates in a club in Amsterdam where she makes an utter fool of herself, trying all the time to get a grip on the fact that "desperation is not attractive." The ultra-cool Dutch lesbians won't pay any attention to her, no matter how hard she works it. Poor girl, 4 a.m. is way past her bedtime, and she's afraid she won't be able to stay awake, even if by some miracle she does find someone to take home.

The madcap antics on the quest for "love," or at least a good fuck, are performed with non-stop energy. The more poignant moments come in the brief interludes after the letdowns, like the scene between the heroine and her stuffed animal, whom she orders to beat her. Even the tragedy is played for laughs, and that's what makes *One Fool* so entertaining. Baum keeps it light even as she hits the depths. Her acting is good, her rapport with the audience is impeccable. It's stand-up, sit-down, roll-over comedy.

You can count on *One Fool* as great date-night material. No matter who you're with, you'll both be grateful not to be going home alone.

## Some Men Do... A musical outing

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

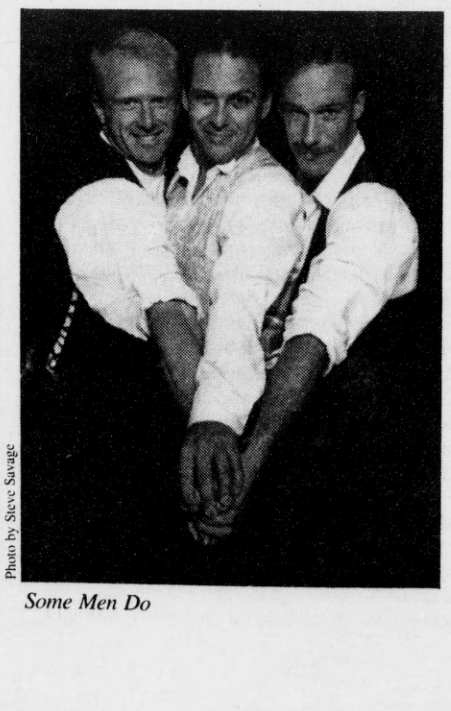
Swell Productions (John F. Karr and F. Allen Sawyer) with Theatre Rhinoceros are currently presenting a slightly revised edition of *Some Men Do*, a revue featuring songs of gay songwriters, straight songwriters whose lyrics express gay themes, and songs that simply reflect some aspect of gay sensibility.

As the stated concept might suggest, it's a mixed bag, not always successful, but as in any revue of this type the good numbers balance the not-so-good. (Some songs were obviously included for their lyric raunchiness and let's face it, the audience loved them.)

Twenty-six songs are loosely woven around a young man's coming out, moving to the city, and experiencing love, sundry sexual escapades, self-awareness and political sophistication. But enjoy the music, the theme's incidental.

Marc Blitzstein's "My True Heart" opens the show. Written for an ingenue, the lyrics reflect the composer's deep sadness for sexual understanding:

"Do I dare to uncover my true heart,
And ever be the same?
And do I dare to reveal the longing I feel



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Now I know its name?''

The ensemble of *Some Men Do* includes Eric Brizee, Buddy Montgomery, Joseph Taro and, on piano, Wingate Greathouse. The singers further state the evening's theme with ''Smalltown'' and ''Hideaway,'' and then immediately ignore it with a romp through some '20s and '30s raunch that includes ''Please Warm my Weiner,'' ''Take it Easy, Greasy,'' and the Bessie Smith classic ''Take Me for a Buggy Ride.'' Not content to let the sexually insinuating lyrics do the job on ''Buggy Ride,'' Joseph overplayed it like a frenetic Sophie Tucker.

Certainly one of the evening's best was Cole Porter's delightful ''Most Gentlemen Don't Like Love,'' with the trio utilizing the composer's musicality and wit to fine advantage. Joseph's ''One Night Stand'' by *The Grass Harp* lyricist Kenward Elmslie was again the victim of excessive mugging. (With the first row of seats a bare five feet from the performers, a little subtlety might be in order.)

Openly gay jazzman Billy Strayhorn, who often managed to slip the code word ''gay'' into his songs, was represented by the very fine ''Lush Life.'' Nicely phrased, sung almost as a private reverie, it was one of Buddy's solos.

A second Strayhorn, ''Something to Live For,'' was simply and effectively sung by Joseph who let his voice (and the lyrics) do the job.

Some songs are perhaps best left in their composer's trunks. Among them are: Leonard Bernstein's ''It's Got to be Bad to be Good,'' the kind of ditty that lives and dies in college musicals; Georgia White's ''Hot Nuts,'' not very clever, not very good, and decidedly an audience favorite; Mack Vickerey's ''Meatman,'' a bump-and-grinder for Eric; and ''Somebody Else was Suckin' My Dick Last Night,'' which had no redeeming social or musical virtues other than to make the other songs sound great. Eric was also called upon to perform the Bernstein number. He began it with a strip, too soon stopped with a tease.

''Two Men Dance the Tango'' by Tom Judson (composer for the movie *Metropolitan*) was performed by Joseph and Buddy. It was the highlight of the show—clever, delightful, refreshingly zany.

The heavily messaged finale serveups were ''So Many People in the World,'' a second-rate Sondheim from the so-so *Marry Me Little*; ''The Right to Love,'' indifferent music and lyrics on an interracial theme but nevertheless recorded by Peggy Lee, Carmen McRae and Tony Bennett; and Marc Blitzstein's ''No for an Answer,'' originally about union organizing, but here a response to Jesse Helms. Politically correct, but boring. Then, to raise our spirits, a quick reprise of ''Two Men Dance the Tango.''

Excellent program notes and research by John Karr; not particularly inspired choreography by Chad Edwards.

*Some Men Do* has been extended through Dec. 16 at Theatre Rhinoceros Thursdays through Sundays at 8:30 p.m. Call 861-5079.

## Cat's Paw

REVIEWED BY TOM W. KELLY

Once again North Beach Repertory tenders a payload of impeccably-acted performances, this time in *Cat's Paw* by William Mastrosimone. This production also heralds the opening of a new San Francisco theater space called, appropriately enough, the North Beach Repertory Theatre. And a jewel of a space it is: located in the Cannery and seating 70.

Unfortunately, the script itself presents certain difficulties: it's problematic to the point of being grotesque audience manipulation. Playwright Mastrosimone—also author of *Extremities*—pro*pounds* us over the head with essentially one question: Does the end justify the means? As the play is structured, the answer is obvious very early on... NO.

With the intensity and destructive possibilities of a laser beam, Anthony St. Martin executes the role of Victor, a zesty enviromentalist who'll kill anyone and everyone to save the planet. His only onstage recruit is Cathy, played with intelligence and sensitivity by Edith Bryson. These two were also seen last year in the brilliantly acted NBR production of *Fool for Love*.

Representing the opposition is a tough-as-nails television reporter gutsily played by Margie Pratchenko. She's been allowed into Victor's dusty warehouse headquarters to interview both him and a kidnapped EPA official, acted to perfection by Richard Lindstrom. Act Two belongs to Lindstrom in a tour de force performance of a crumbling man, pushed too far.

The plot is simple: Victor the ''terrorist'' represents a just cause but accompanies his demands with intimidation, cruelty, and murder. Holding an EPA hostage for five months has gained him nothing from the government, so he's set off a car bomb on a busy Washington D.C. street and killed 27 people. He's also procured an ambitious television reporter to present his side to the world, hoping to garner support for his ''holy mission''. But this self-proclaimed Messiah has the TV journalist's strong will and private agenda to contend with.

The production values are simple yet strong. Special commendation goes to Brice Evans for his creation of a warehouse setting complete with rusty iron stair and walkway, and steel-reinforced doorways.

Overall a grueling experience. What's the ultimate point?

## Laughing

REVIEWED BY DEAN GOODMAN

It's a mad world we live in, and nobody understands that better or writes about it with a keener wit than Christopher Durang. His latest play, *Laughing Wild*, which lampoons everything from tuna fish to the ozone layer, continues his satiric trend.

There's no real plot or story line to this black comedy, but Durang is such a clever writer and has such fun with the English language that we don't much care. In the first act a deranged woman delivers a tirade, much of which is aimed directly at us in the audience; in the second act, a bland yuppie young man also addresses us to reveal his fears, his phobias and his secret longings. When these two odd creatures finally connect in the third act we're well prepared for anything off-the-wall which might happen between them. They are Everyman and Everywoman, and we identify with them completely for we have experienced the same angst, the same frustrations, the same ups and downs as these brilliantly conceived characters.

Durang was raised a Catholic, and here again he excels in taking pot-shots at the church and its clergy as he did in *Sister Mary Ignacious Explains It All For You*. It's almost as if, while writing, he catches fire and can't resist going off on tangents. Swept away by the flow of his inspiration, he creates images and presents ideas which at first may seem irrelevant but which ultimately tie in perfectly with his central theme. We recognize elements of ourselves in his characters, as crazy as they are, and we can't help being amused and delighted. Our laughter is cathartic.

In the first act, the woman confesses a dislike for both Dr. Ruth and Mother Theresa. She would like nothing better, she says, than to see these two ladies fight it out in Rome's Coliseum...with dildos! The young man tells about the stars of *Dreamgirls*, as they won Tonys in New York, thanking the Lord and saying they couldn't have won the awards without His help. It strikes the young man strange that God was more interested in helping *Dreamgirls* than he was in helping victims of the holocaust.

Lynda Ayres Frederick plays the woman in *Laughing Wild* and Brian Scott is the young man. On opening night they seemed a bit insecure here and there, occasionally fluffing lines, but in general they gave solid right-on-the-mark performances. Director Charles Aups has successfully captured the zany mood and style of the play.

Wicked, witty and often wonderful in its piercing look at life in a world of crazy, mixed-up people, *Laughing Wild* continues at The Phoenix Theatre through Dec. 16. Call 621-4423.


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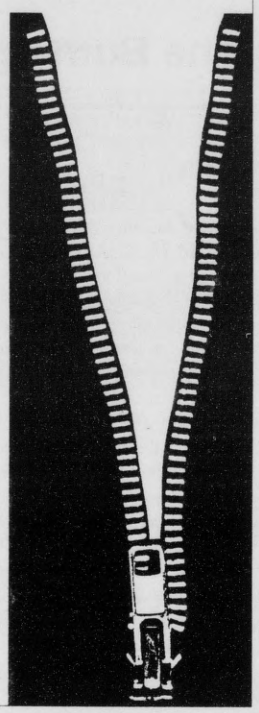

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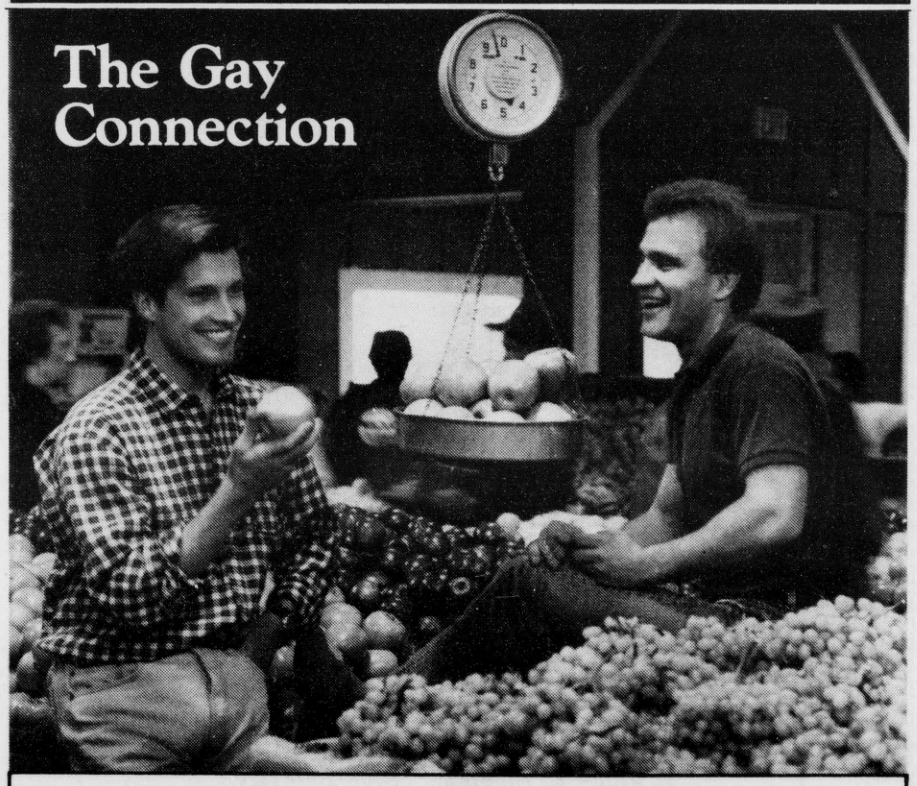


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# FILM

## The Burning Times

REVIEWED BY RANDY TUROFF

Canadian filmmaker Donna Read has come up with another fabulously radical documentary since the release of her highly acclaimed *The Goddess Remembered* last year. *The Burning Times* continues to explore the patriarchal destruction of women's spirituality and nature-oriented culture, this time in the context of the devastating witch hunts which haunted medieval Europe and which continue to affect us repressively today.

A mere 300 years ago, women were being burned at the stake, as six generations of children watched the torture. As feminist writer Thea Jensen states, over a period of 300-400 years some nine million women were brutally murdered in the town squares throughout Europe. This was the Women's Holocaust, and it is this Holocaust which the film examines from a number of politically astute historical angles.

Our standard textbooks provide little documentation about the extent of the atrocities perpetrated against women. We are taught that the Renaissance was a high time for Western culture with the rebirth and flourishing of the arts, of science and exploration. What we are not taught is that the Renaissance was a peak period of the witch craze and was in fact a time of death for women's culture, with the rise of the patriarchy steered by the vindictive Catholic church. Sir Francis Bacon, in the name of the scientific revolution, supported the use of the tools of the Inquisition to "torture the secrets out of Mother Earth." The printing press, exalted as the forerunner of modern communication networking, was used by the Church to print a handbook on how to recognize and burn a witch that was distributed throughout Europe, down to the smallest rural towns and villages.

*Starhawk*

As capitalism gained in ascendancy, the witch burning business became a very lucrative industry for judges, lawyers and members of tribunals who confiscated whatever assets or property an independent woman might own, and then obliterated her. Widows, older women (hags), unmarried spinsters and female physicians (healers, shamans and midwives) were the victims not only of religious persecution, but also of capitalistic greed.

In tracing back the history of how it all came to pass, Starhawk speaks of the origin of witches as shamans, as women who were visionaries, leaders and wise ones who had the power to bend the universal energies for transformation and natural spiritual healings. Witchcraft has been used since the demise of woman-centered culture as a term to dismiss women's power in various cultures around the world. When the patriarchal Church branded these witches, these shamans, as devil worshippers, the ancient Goddess-oriented rituals and ceremonies tied to nature, female empowerment and the seasons, were labeled satanic. Women were blamed for the Plague. The Church went after women with a vengeance. Female sexuality was seen as the root of all evil.

The pain of labor was seen by the Church as God's punishment for Eve's sin, and midwives who assisted and eased the birthing process were rounded up as heretics. Midwives also taught birth control. By removing the female practitioners from the villages, the Church, in the name of God the Father, claimed total rights over women's bodies, sexuality and reproduction. Those who demanded reforms were put to death as witches.

*The Burning Times* is a lively, shocking and insightful film. The paintings, medieval drawings, and museum relics of torture machines like the Iron Maiden, flash across the screen and bring the horrendous story to life. The footage shown of ancient stone villages with their cobblestone courtyards where millions of women were tortured and burned, remain virtually the same today. In a village in France, the same cross stands witness, but few people remember what happened there. There are no monuments commemorating the Women's Holocaust, just the cross of the Catholic church which still stands as a monument to the patriarchal institution.

As Read says, "History is written by the winners." But history, like institutions, can be reconstructed and power can be reclaimed. Films like these are much needed along the path of redressing the balance. *The Burning Times* is an incendiary indictment of the patriarchal abuse of power. It needs a wider distribution than its brief run at the Roxie. In times like these, it needs to be seen.

*The Roxie has added three showings of* Burning Times*: Dec 1, 2 and 9, all at 11 a.m.*

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# DINING OUT

BY MERRY WINSLOW

## Ristorante Castellucci ★★

561 Columbus Ave, San Francisco
362-2774

This trattoria in North Beach presents a delightful blend of new and old: modern creativity in cooking and presentation, old world hospitality and generosity of portions. You won't feel hungry after eating dinner here, even if the ingredients *do* relate to California cuisine.

On a recent visit we started our dinner with a Salad Mista—shared by three of us it was plenty and consisted of the usual baby lettuces nicely complemented by lots of fresh arugula and watercress. Good olive oil, red wine vinegar, and fresh ground pepper were all the dressing offered, or needed. The greens seemed slightly wilted and probably had been out of the refrigerator all evening, but the salad was still quite good, accompanied by crusty sourdough bread.

Next came three antipasti. Calamari Frita ($6.95) was a large plate of very crunchy and light pieces of squid; dry and clean tasting, the frying technique was perfect. The batter they were fried in was rather plain and bland—and the dipping sauce lacked character, so the dish was somewhat lacking. If they could get some flavor going with this it would be a winner.

Melanzane al Forno ($4.95) was delicious. Broiled slices of eggplant topped with mozzarella cheese and tomato sauce, this was large enough to be an entree. The eggplant was nicely cooked and not at all greasy—instead it had good texture and a nice grilled taste. The cheese was rather thick, the tomato sauce was excellent.

Polenta alla Gorgonzola ($5.50) was everyone's favorite. As beautiful looking as it was delicious, the chargrilled polenta had a great cheesy flavor which was complemented by tomato sauce nicely and was once again a generous sized portion which was plenty for all three of us to eat.

We limited ourselves to two entrees. The special Lasagna ($9.95) was made with spinach pasta, breast of chicken and a hint of thinly sliced ham, layered together and adorned with stripes of red and white sauce which gave the entire tremendous portion the look of the Italian flag. It tasted as good as it looked.

Pasta con Polpetti ($8.25) was unremarkable—three light and tasty meatballs on a bed of rather soft spaghetti, this was the least inspired dish of the evening.

Other items on the menu included an assortment of pastas and two fresh fish specials, including a grilled salmon which looked very appetizing.

The service was especially good at Castellucci with our waitron Laurie providing spirited and attentive care at every turn. In all, a fondly remembered dinner in North Beach.

## Hueng Hueng Restaurant ★★

3608 Balboa Street, San Francisco
221-9188

Finally, a Chinese restaurant with interesting dishes, great vegetables, good quantities, and low prices, in a neighborhood with plenty of parking! It's already been discovered by lots of other people, judging by the volume of business they were doing the Saturday night we dropped in, but most *S.F. Bay Times* readers probably don't venture out as far as 35th Avenue for dinner too often, so this may come as a revelation. Arriving without reservations on a Saturday night we nevertheless were seated within ten minutes.

Our waitron was especially helpful and patient, as he explained what we were pointing to on the platters which passed by our table as we read the menu. We ordered what sounded like enough food—then saw some other temptations being served nearby, and got those too—ate very well, and spent about $11 per person, including tip.

Stuffed Eggplant on Hot Platter ($6.25) was brought to the table with great drama, sizzling loudly and covered with paper so it looked very mysterious. Medallions of eggplant were split nearly in half and sandwiched with a shrimp/pork mixture, then cooked in a chunky garlic/jalapeno sauce which was succulent and spicy. This dish was a little greasy but very good.

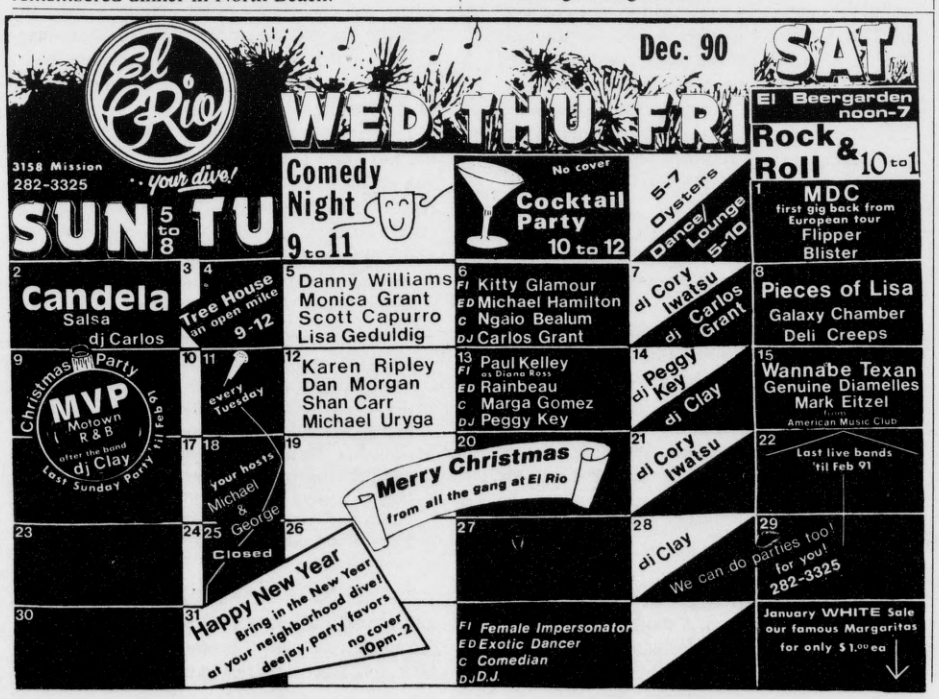
Saute Prawns with Sweet Walnuts ($7.00) tasted like a dessert to me, though my companions were delighted. Many plump prawns were battered and fried, served atop crunchy honey roasted walnuts and studded with sesame seeds. The dish was really good, even for one who generally doesn't care for sweetened meats or seafood.

A special request for some Chinese Broccoli with Black Mushrooms ($6.50) in oyster sauce was honored, though not specifically on the menu. The greens and mushrooms were cooked perfectly, and served in plentiful quantities, as was everything else we ordered.

Prawns with Greens ($6.25) completed the meal and was another delicious treatment of a somewhat ordinary dish.

One of the main things which impressed me about Heung Heung was the careful attention given to the vegetables. Often Cantonese restaurants treat the vegetables as an afterthought and merely throw a few in with whatever meat dish they are serving. Here the vegetables get the respect they deserve, being brought to the table vibrantly green and not overcooked, and in great portions.

Friendly service and great suggestions from the waiter enhanced our meal and we intend to return to Heung Heung soon.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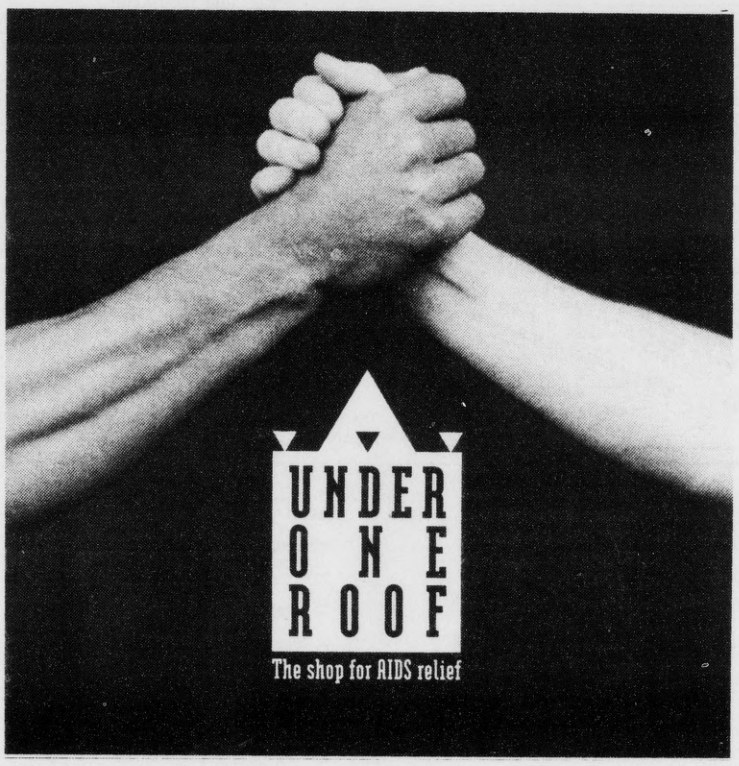


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# BOOKS

## Dancing on Tisha B'Av

By Lev Raphael
St. Martin's Press, 1990, $16.95

REVIEWED BY LORI UBELL

Although beginning writers are constantly admonished to "write about what you know," this simple concept didn't really have much meaning for me until I heard Lev Raphael speak earlier this year at Out/Write (the gay/lesbian writing conference.)

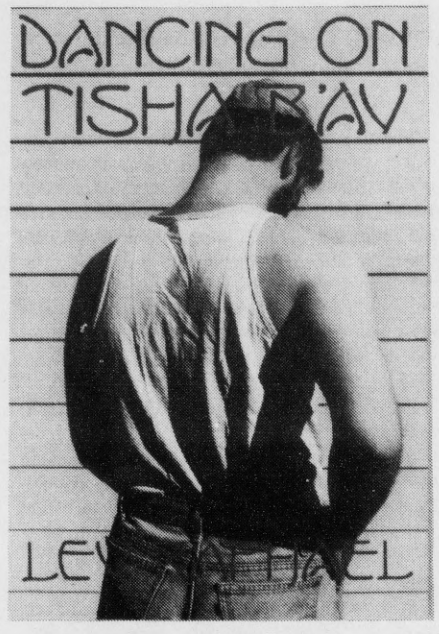
Raphael spoke of being both gay *and* Jewish, and how, until he began to write of his entire experience, particularly the Jewish aspects of it, his voice would be less than authentic. It wasn't enough for him to write of the gay experience; he had to write of the gay *Jewish* experience: his experience.

*Dancing on Tisha B'Av* is a collection of 19 short stories rooted in Raphael's knowledge of what it is to be gay and Jewish in America. Paradoxically, this is both the strength and the weakness of the book. While some of the individual stories are gems, the book as a whole seems limited and redundant.

Raphael's stories center on two major themes: the pain and joy of being both Jewish and gay in America, and the experience of growing up as the child of Holocaust survivors. When they work, they are moving, authentic, and sometimes chilling.

The title story is a beauty. Two men, one young and one slightly older, meet and fall in love in the context of the Orthodox Jewish *minyan* (worshippers gathered for prayer) on a college campus. What happens to them is told through the eyes of the young man's sister who loves her brother but is baffled and afraid as well. The story is rich in imagery and layers; I found myself moved to tears at the end.

Equally affecting is "Inheritance," about the ways in which three young adults deal with the




death of their mother, a Holocaust survivor, who has left her untouched German reparation money to the eldest. And "Fresh Air" is an almost unbearably real portrait of a survivor fighting a descent into madness and despair. In fact, the seven stories which concern themselves with children of Holocaust survivors are the strongest and most coherent. Although the brief biography on the book's cover doesn't mention it, Raphael is obviously the child of survivors; he is able to write intimately and exquisitely about the pain and intensity of that experience.

Of the eleven remaining stories, four, like "Dancing on Tisha B'Av," deal with the tensions inherent in leading both a gay and Jewish life. (Two, in fact, have the same characters as in "Tisha B'Av.") Three are about gay life in general, two about Jewish life in general, one about life in general and one, "The Life You Have," is not so much a story but a statement about writing from one's own experience.

In it, the narrator, an English professor, is baffled by the failure of his talented lover, Bill, to publish any of his short stories. When he finally sits down to read them, he sees that, though technically polished, they lack the essence of Bill's individuality as a Jewish gay man, the son of a Holocaust survivor.

This story is one of the weakest in the book. The author's esoteric ideas take precedence over character and plot development. Stories can make a point, of course; but it should grow naturally out of the characters and situation, not vice versa. This one, unfortunately, has the earnest tone of a t.v. "problem of the week" movie, and the characters lack depth or even interest.

Most of Raphael's stories are more successful. If I had read them individually, in the magazines and journals in which they originally appeared, I would have enjoyed or even been excited by them.

The problem is with the book as a whole. I read the entire thing in two sittings; after a while, there was a numbing similarity of character and background. Nearly all the stories take place on midwestern college campuses; nearly all the narrators are academic types; nearly all the "love interests" are dark, curly-headed men with blue eyes.

At a certain point, a writer must take what he or she actually knows and transfer this knowledge to the world at large. For instance, some of the stories set in the groves of academe need to be there; most do not. Raphael could have added to the interest of his collection by having them set somewhere (indeed anywhere) else.

Beyond the superficial problems of setting and description, however, is a more serious one of theme. As a Jew, and a lesbian, I was initially delighted to read stories which spoke directly to "my" experience. How wonderful to read stories in which gay people speak Yiddish, go to shul, and fast on Yom Kippur.

But by the time I finished the book, I wanted more. Okay, it's difficult to be gay and Jewish; what more can you tell me? I wanted Raphael to go deeper and wider, to take me into territory that was at once familiar and new.

Take, for instance, "Another Life" and "Abominations," the two other stories dealing with Nat, Mark and Brenda, the "Tisha B'Av" characters. "Another Life" is virtually the same story told from Nat's point of view; it sheds no new light on the situation and has the feel of a writing class exercise. ("Okay, now take the same story and tell it from the perspective of one of the other characters....")

"Abominations" concerns the further adventures of Brenda in the world of gay liberation and homophobia. Once again, it has the "problem of the week" feel to it; it all just seems too neat. What if Brenda did not have that sudden flash of clarity? This might have been the way it happened, but to have left her still confused would have been more interesting.

By now, too, we have a sense of deja vu about the whole situation. I found myself wondering what other problems Nat and Mark had, and if Brenda didn't also have her own life to worry about.

I'm not suggesting that Raphael give up writing about his life or its concerns. I want him to go a step further than the obvious, and I'm convinced that he can do it. He has the basics down; he has a distinct voice and view of life. Now he needs to make the leap from the known to the unknown, from the surface to the depths. I'll be eager to read that book.

## Identity & Difference

By Peter Weltner
Crossing Press, 1990, $8.95

REVIEWED BY STEVE ABBOTT

"What is a story, any story, but the body's crying out...to be loved and thus saved," says the character Preston in Peter Weltner's first novel. A few pages later Preston notes that no man's story exactly repeats another's and that this "is what it means to live without myth."

No matter how many stories I read, I'm always eager to read another if the story's told well. The mystery of love (or even lust) is unfathomable, but *how* we reach out to others, and what happens when we do—*that's* what interests me. In Weltner's novel, the stories of two men are juxtaposed so that one can't help but compare them and consider how they illumine the very nature of storytelling.

The strongest story is Daryl's. He's a 17-year-old kid (who hates being called "kid"), who idolizes his recently deceased brother Glenn. The reason I find this story strongest is because it stands closer to the origin of love—a very direct, physical awareness that's not yet fully conscious or sexual. Here, for instance, is how Daryl describes Glenn's tight jeans compared to his own clothes:

> On Glenn it looked good because it seemed natural somehow. Like hair on a panther or feathers on a hummingbird, it fit him, it made him look sleek and fast, as if clothes were something he'd agreed to wear only because they helped him move quicker. Whereas on me clothes always look like somebody dropped a gunnybag over my head and I'd tripped on it. I'm still too skinny. I'm tall enough. But I'm skinny.

The story here—in Daryl's innocently clumsy and beautiful speech—is Daryl's gradual awakening to the fact that his brother was gay and that he is, too. But categories like "gay" can't really

describe what's happening, which is far more magical. It's how things smell and look when you're first finding your own feet in the world.

Daryl is blunt, painfully ethical, in describing things exactly as he experiences them. In this he's sort of a gay Huck Finn rafting into adulthood. His experience is not yet mediated by cynicism. He's still trying to "fill out" in his own body and mind for which the image of his big brother is a kind of map.

Preston is older and represents the burdens of too much culture and consciousness. He has the "perfect" lover in Jim but is bored and dissatisfied. He wants to bring a third party, Bert, into the picture which, of course, fucks things up. Actually, each story involves a triangle. The Preston/Jim/Bert triangle is matched by Daryl's triangle with his big brother's friends Mack and Dusty (who wants to seduce Daryl having previously failed with Glenn).

And where do we, the readers, fit in? As I read it, *we're* caught in a triangle too. We're the third point between the stories of Daryl and Preston. Who will we choose to identify with and why? On still other levels the triangle is author/text/reader or past/present/future. What's really compelling about this novel is how it allows us so many ways to read it.

Daryl and Preston never meet, although we, the readers, see certain correspondences in their lives: both love men (and have to deal with how people you love can "cop-out" on you), both face a crisis at Halloween, and both have a burden from the past they must let go of (Preston burns his notebooks, Daryl burns his brother's letters). But how they view their lives and how they act differs.

Although it's true no man's story ever exactly repeats another's, the story of love itself is mythic. And the love triangle is one of the oldest mythic dramas. We don't have to buy Preston's view that "life is just an accumulation of fragments" any more than we buy Daryl's view that his brother was heroic or godlike. Each view is a mythic script.

Whereas heroes of old had to fight through forests full of monsters to get to "the gold," today we confront the monsters of competing mythic scripts. To follow a script blindly can lead to tragedy, not only in one's personal life but politically as well (eg., Whose mythic script of the Middle East/Persian Gulf situation will we buy?) This is why reading good fiction may be ultimately more important than reading How-to books.

On one level, *Identity & Difference* is simply a damn good read. Daryl is as lovable and unforgettable as Huck Finn or Holden Caufield. But there's a deeper value in this novel. By seeing how others act out *their* mythic scripts, we get clues on how to act out our own.

## Shock Treatment

By Karen Finley
City Lights, 1990, 144pp., $6.95

REVIEWED BY RANDY TUROFF

Last week I found myself trapped on the Muni with a group of teenagers up in my face. One stoned dude was telling another how he bashed in this girl's face, and the rest of the group was tittering along. His attitude was along the lines of the rap brag about "busting pussy." It pissed me off. Then I came home and picked up Karen Finley's *Shock Treatment* which I had been asked to review. The book, which is a collection of her performance monologues along with some poetry, was a self-conscious continuation of the bad attitude on the subway.

Finley captures the gender wars in their own terms, by using the images and language of the streets. It's a pity that the book contained no photos of Finley in performance and that there was no introduction, nor information about Finley's career. Instead, the book presents the bare bones of her pieces out of context, and what she says becomes the sole gauge of her communication. She implies that the value of what she's saying lies in saying what polite society represses, as if bad taste and bad attitude somehow replace hypocrisy. She's a performance artist who's made a career as the Queen of Rude. Her stance is heavily anti-censorship. I'm in agreement with the anti-censorship, but I'm beginning to question the nature of a subversion which is based on reaction and which perpetuates one set of negativities for another.

I remember as a kid growing up in N.Y.C. laughing at the "Welcome to N.Y." postcard which was a picture of some sleazy guy in a trench coat exposing himself on the subway. I'm not so amused by that N.Y. kind of irony any more. In a sense, every place is becoming N.Y.C. now, every city has its screaming weenies, subway crazies, and general mean-spirited negativity without conscience or care. It's not difficult to relate on a level to Finley's graphic descriptions of modern life seen as a crushing defeat of the spirit. Violation occurs from the top down and the bottom up. Finley is adept at delineating the boundaries of hatred, at depicting the crumbling society and people caught perpetually in their own worst moments.

*Shock Treatment* could serve as a document of the nadir of the times. But is this free association of bad taste still shocking in the '90s as it was in the early '80s? I don't think so. Now that everyone's cashing in on being a self-confessed dickhead, bad attitude is no longer the untouchable province of punks and poets. It's become the norm as a stance in a culture where life has become worthless to a lot of people.

*Shock Treatment* is, however, well-written shit. Finley transcribes the worst of what people think and gives it to us as a raw mixture of cruelty, bravado and truth. The nastiness on every page threatens to cross the thin line into potentialized violence. There's a power in the way she shows how unthinkable attitudes can become the stuff of headlines. The unthinkable realities become the content of her "stories."

Take "I'm An Ass Man" from her collection. It starts with the rap: "When my kids say Fuck You! I turn them over and fuck 'em in the ass. That'll stop their drooling. That'll stop their rhythmic shaking. If they want to shake they can shake my dick after I piss."

Finley really does hate people, especially straight, white yahoos. She lashes into men with a vengeance that only a straight woman could muster up to that level of visceral repulsion. As she states repeatedly, "I don't know how to be loved, just how to be abused." She's also really sour on mom and dad and granny and yuppies and thrill-seekers who crash poor neighborhoods for the religious experience of it. Her poetry is somewhat less brutal than her monologues. Her poems focus on fear and anger, and they permit us to glimpse the frustrated and disillusioned idealist behind the cynical persona of the performer. But the martyrdom and identification with victimization is unrelenting. Says Finley, "I'll tell you why I only feel comfortable around the collapsed, the inebriated, and the broken—because they look like what I feel inside."

Sometimes Finley's dark humor, which is propelled by a fierce bitterness, goes beyond psychological decrepitude and hits the political bull's eye with a poison dart. "One day," muses Finley, "I hope to God, Bush, Cardinal O'Connor and the Right-to-Lifers each returns to life as an unwanted pregnant 13-year-old girl working at McDonald's at minimum wage." Amen.

Whereas in the '80s this material might have been new and shocking and avant-garde, I think it has lost a lot of its radical chic appeal. In re-evaluating Finley's impact, I think she still packs a punch squarely in the face of the traditional family coalition types, but as far as radical art goes, I believe it's old stuff that has already caught up. I think what's becoming more radical now is the search for solutions to the destructiveness and dehumanization. We're far beyond the zone of first alert.

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journalist for the
gay press

Thursday
Dec. 20, 7:30 PM
**Louise Rafkin**
discusses and
autographs
"Different Mothers"

Sunday, Dec 2, 3:30 PM
**Lev Raphael** reads from and discusses his St. Martin's Press collection of short stories, "Dancing on Tish B'Av."

Sunday, Dec 16, 8 PM
**Actor Robert Coffman** returns to present his traditional reading of the Truman Capote classic Christmas story.

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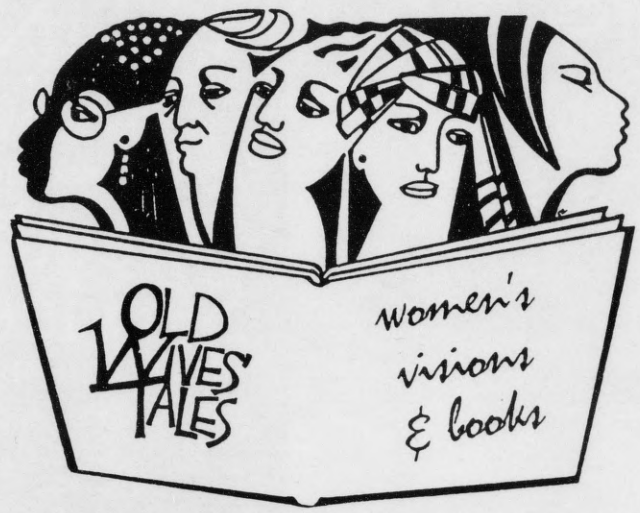


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# LEATHERSEX

BY JOSEPH W. BEAN

## Daddies and Their Boys

Generalities are usually pointless, but there are some about the leathersex scene that are pretty important. How any of them applies to you personally, you have to work out for yourself. *Generally*, leathersex has taken several strides away from rigid Top-bottom and Master-slave situations both in overnight play and in long-term relationships. This is not to say that leathermen don't generally play this way anymore; we do, but less exclusively, perhaps less frequently, and investing less of our identity in the play than was the case with "Old Leather."

The Master-slave arrangement was the epitome of leathersex at one time, the thing which people spoke of as being "further along," even when they were not people who intended to "go that far." Today, the Daddy-boy relationship is probably the quintessential relationship for "New Leather." (Still, though, the perfect relationship for any two men is whatever they want and are satisfied by!) Personal ads are full of Daddies seeking boys, and boys seeking Daddies. T-shirts printed "Daddy" and "Daddy's Boy" are everywhere. And, among the friends of this writer, the relationships that seem to last are the ones defined by the participants as Daddy-and-boy, or something of a similar tone.

Some of the attractions of the Daddy-boy relationship are pretty obvious. There is the warmly familiar language, in terms of the words used and the psycho-social postures and non-verbal communications. There is the fact that "straighter" friends who are puzzled or worried by Master-slave situations can actually learn to accept, even embrace a Daddy-boy relationship. And, perhaps most importantly, there is the fact that a Daddy-boy relationship can be built to exact, personal specifications that include an almost endless variety of options.

Photo by Mark I. Chester

*Joseph Bean*

Men who can be successful Daddies tend not to be people who have a deep need to be perceived as extremists or outsiders in the way that a Rebel Biker or Slavemaster is. But then, what it takes to be extreme and outside now is much more than it once was. To wear leather at all in 1959 was to be an outsider of a relatively extreme sort. This was less the case in '69, hardly relevant in '79, and not true to any stigmatizing extent in '89. So the shifting of social acceptance in the gay community and the world has contributed to the redefinition of acts, attitudes, and clothing in such a way as to support—but by no means create—the new popularity of the Daddy-boy relationship over the traditional leathersex pairings.

A man who is likely to be a successful boy must share his Daddy's willingness to be in a leather relationship that does not seek outwardly to outrage. This is an important consideration, but it may only be understandable for the people it disqualifies. Many of the men who are looking for Daddies today would once have looked for Masters, but they would then have been the ones who looked forward to the day when they would turn the tables on the Master, Top him, and then (very, very likely) leave him. In times past, regardless of the fact that most of these guys never got around to the table-turning stage, those who did usually ended up with another Master before long. They hadn't changed their needs. What they had done was simply wear down their Masters.

If you want a relationship where the Top is dominant not only "by definition," but also because of his strengths and the admiration the bottom has for him; where there is respect flowing both ways within the relationship; where one party admits to learning and both parties are accepting of growth and change; where the bottom is expected to have a will and to know when to express it as well as when to relinquish it, a Daddy-and-boy relationship is probably just what you want. And there is one more thing that is very usual in Daddy-boy relationships and fairly uncommon in all other leathersex situations: Daddies and their boys are almost always allowed by the parameters of their partnership to *express* genuine love for one another.

Love may not be uncommon in any human relationships, Master-slave and other rigid Top-bottom affairs included, but what other set of labels can two men apply to themselves which give them a more perfect framework for expressing masculine love than Daddy and his boy?

As for the power exchange and sexual interaction between Daddies and boys, it can be quite surprisingly flexible. Age is not a determining factor: Daddy may be younger or older than his boy. The words Daddy and boy are non-limiting labels: Daddy may be the active or passive, dominant or submissive, Top or bottom partner. All of that is open to negotiation and discovery, and it will be discussed further at a later time. Meantime, it can't hurt to rethink what you want, with Daddies and boys in mind.

## Paddles, Whips and Hands

A man who never suspected he had any leather-ward inclination can discover a great deal about himself when, out of the blue, his sex partner claps an open hand against exposed skin. If the first flush of surprise brings with it a sense of humiliation and a thrill, an urge to submit and a willingness to do so, an impish inclination to fight back, or a determined will to retaliate, the information is telling. Beyond pleasure-in-pain, what you're likely to discover the first time someone plants a hand print on your ass is the very basis of your leathersex orientation.

Then, for most people, some variation on that first slap becomes an essential part of their leathersex repertoire. It can be spanking, flogging or whipping with belts, paddles, hands, crops, quirts, or just about anything. It can be done in the context of just about any fantasy, under any set of partner-defining labels, and it can be anything from a ritualized suggestion to an outright beating. Still, pain produced by blows is surely the most nearly universal element in SM, and in degrees of leathersex that the participants would not call SM as well.

Many novices in leathersex also discover that in any individual scene, the first slap serves the purpose of helping them to discover just how they want to relate to their partner of the moment. Relying on this is probably not a good plan, especially as your limits become less restrictive, but it isn't a bad idea to use it—if you find that it is reliable for you—in your early leathersex experiments. But you want to wean yourself from this practice as soon as you can.

The important thing to bring into your understanding of coming to erotic blows is the persistent theme of all leathersex: safe, sane, consensual activity. Let's start with the question of consent. It is vitally important if you are the bottom, meaning you are the one who will be receiving the blows and expecting erotic pleasure either from them or in connection with them, that you communicate the exact extent of your consent to the Top.

This writer's advice is that you start by consenting to hands only, and that you consent to nothing without knowing that you are able to stop the scene if it goes further than you are ready to go. Within a single scene, you may find yourself ready to extend your consent to paddles, cats-o-nine, belts or whatever, as a product of trust developed within the power exchange. And, for scenes involving restraints, bondage, or whipping toys that can break the skin, it is probably best to refuse altogether until you know

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the Top and the situation well. You might, for instance, hold out (especially on scenes involving large whips) until you have seen the Top in action with another bottom.

As to the safety and sanity of scenes involving spanking and whipping, normal cautions apply, with the added reminder that a man who is perfectly trustworthy in all other situations can become hyper-stimulated by the physical acts and the resulting sounds of these scenes. Don't lose your own responsible judgement (or, for that matter, become too cautious), and don't let the scene carry your partner away. This danger exists in all leathersex scenes, but is heightened in the atmosphere of spanking and whipping, particularly for novices. Get off on it. Let yourself go. But keep your wits about you, too.

One of the great charms of spanking and whipping—an essential pleasure for some of us—is the marking of the flesh. It can have both immediate effects and more lasting pleasures, but this too is a matter of negotiated limits. Are you willing to have welts and marks? Are you only willing to have marks for the duration of the scene, for the night, for a few days? Do you expect that if a break in your skin appears the Top should immediately stop the scene? Do you want deep pains that might be re-started when you sit or shower for several days, or only surface stimulation? Know what you want, how much more than that (if any) you are willing to accept, and how to talk to your partner about it.

Finally, the question of safe and sane "beating" involves a certain amount of information that ought to be intentionally learned in some other way than by trial and error. For this there are two options, and the best route is to take *both*. First, there are instructional classes (including a very good one on video available by mail from Sandmutopia Supply Co. in San Francisco). Second, there is learning by watching others who already have experience, which is a perfectly good excuse for going to leather events where there will be demonstrations and to (sex) play parties, too. Any excuse to play, eh?

## Border...

*(continued from page 41)*

numerous postures, sucked on a plastic beating heart, pulled a snake from behind his body and played with it. Across the space from him, Fusco, dressed like a dowdy housewife, painted her face black, and moved through a variety of physical postures.

The slideshow that accompanied the performance was filled with images of Christianity, Castro, and prison, war in Latin America, Greta Garbo, Frank Sinatra and Nicaragua and was complemented by a complex audio section dissecting American identity—"a 500 year old wound that has never healed." The performance moves into a "ritual" space as Fusco approaches the altar on the side of the stage. On the altar are Coca-Cola, Cheese Whiz, Colgate and Heinz catsup, as well as a few taco shells. Fusco flashes a sign that says "Ritual in Progress" and proceeds to transform Gomez-Pena. She places a tortilla on his head and dresses it with the objects from the altar. The ritual comes to an end as she lights a cigar and mashes the tortilla shells over his head. The slideshow continues in the background with statistics (my favorite: the second largest Salvadorean city is Los Angeles, the second largest Puerto Rican city is New York, the second largest Cuban city is Miami) and details about Fusco and Gomez-Pena's own experiences on the borders of LatinoAmerica.

To my mind, the installation more effectively made its point about vampirism and the appropriation of culture than the performance did, which was often overshadowed by the technical virtuosity of the slideshow. Which makes a point in and of itself: it is hard to see the actions of real people, even when they are standing right in front of you because of the interference of appropriated images. Gomez-Pena and Fusco let their bodies and their actions stand as testimony to the confusion of their identities in the context of the endless proliferation of signs that distort and obscure borders.


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## ■ BUSINESS RENTAL

**Women's Business Space**. 100-1200 square feet available in building specializing in women's organizations and services. Pill Hill, Oakland. Call Women's Choice Clinic, 444-5676.

**Reward!** Still seeking professional office space in Noe Valley-Eureka Valley-Castro vicinity. Health-related or psychotherapy or bodywork setting. Separate office in private home also a possibility. Must be quiet. Reward paid if space is rented. 285-1769.

Attractive therapy/counseling/massage offices in pretty building, central SF location, easy parking, congenial atmosphere. Full or p/t, call 863-1936.

**Office Space for Rent** 190 to 800 sq ft in SF Bay Times building Available as a unit or subdivide in approx. 200 sq ft units. Attractive, floor-to-ceiling windows & track lighting or skylights; includes kitchen/conference/lounge facilites. SOMA location. Call 626-8121 M-F 10am-6pm.

## ■ REAL ESTATE

**Women's Housing Community**. A Bay Area group is forming now to build an affordable cluster of private homes or units around a commons building. A two day workshop will address the group interaction in planning financing options and design issues with the CoHousing consultants. Call very soon. B.J. (415) 527-4582, Sarah (415) 665-0230.

## ■ HOUSING EXCHANGE

**Housing Exchange**. Exchange your apt, flat, house with members throughout the U.S. and abroad. For vacations, sabbaticals, weekends, etc. Call 928-4277 for more information.

## ■ HOUSING SOUGHT

Two quiet professionals seeking studio or 1 bedroom in Castro or Noe Valley. We are a private couple looking to cut our present rent in hopes of buying a home in a few years. Our family includes a well-behaved poodle and an old cat. Excellent references available. 863-5754.

## ■ HOUSE TO SHARE

Tracy—share 2 BR, 1 BA Victorian. Centrally located off Hwys 580, 5 & 99. $300/mo, dep., ½ util. Available to: clean, masc., prof. male. Call Joe (209) 835-6154.

**East Bay** $450. Share 2 BR, 1 BA home w/prof gay male. Great location, close to 580, 880, BART. Walk to shopping, etc. W/D, fplc, yard; no smoke, drugs. Jeff 537-4253.

Own Room, North Oakland Bungalow. Share utilities, fireplace, patio, etc with architect (39 yrs

old). No pets, tobacco or couples. Quiet, secure, near BART & pool. $350. 654-7856.

Oakland's Laurel District: lesbian seeks same to share wonderful two bedroom home with two fireplaces, huge family room (knotty pine), laundry, yard, LR, DR and two bathrooms. One well-behaved dog considered; no cats. Clean and sober, n/s, and no dieters please. All this for $487.50/month, deposit, ½ utilities. Call 531-2444 after 10 am.

Professional female seeks same to share furnished 2 BR 2 BA condo on the water with pool/spa/fireplace in Foster City. Nonsmoker, temporary rentals are OK, call 349-8951.

Woman seeks same for roommate in Berkeley condo. Pretty, quiet place with backyard. Mature, responsible please. $350. 863-4511 or 626-6500.

Lesbian to share light & airy 2 BR, 2 BA Victorian house with washer/dryer, deck & yard. Easy access to 101 & 280. Wanted: 12 Stepper, emotionally & financially responsible, 32+ preferred. $400 plus share utilities. No dogs, smoking outside. 468-2021.

Roommate wanted. $350 + ½ util. 1st and last month req. Furnished townhouse in top of the hill Daly City. Near transportation. Nonsmoker/financially stable. Prefer gay female. 991-0755/lve mess.

Share 3 bedroom townhouse in South San Francisco (off 280, Westborough exit) with male owner, 2 roommates needed. Nonsmokers only, fireplace, deck with view, access to pool, spa, Jacuzzi, and weight room. $375 per month, $150 deposit. Call Greg, weekends only, 952-7654.

Beautiful Bernal Heights home to share with 2 lesbians or gay men. 2 baths, newly remodeled kitchen. Deck, backyard, washer/dryer. Large room upstairs $500. Medium room downstairs $400. Lisa 641-8148.

## ■ APT TO SHARE

**Seeking French Person** willing to speak/correct French when together in exchange for reasonable rent. Lisa 648-0436.

**Sweet Dyke** seeks same to live in great 2 BR flat. $300 + utilities. Outer Sunset. Nice yard, garage, fireplace, cats. No smoking or heavy drinking/drugs. Near UC Med, City College & State. Into art & progressive politics. Need by Jan 1, 1990. 661-3878.

**Bad Boys Home**. $250/month R&B in quiet dorm with s/m family. HIV + OK. Must be clean & sober. Call 863-2079, ask for man in charge.

Room for rent in painter's studio. 9' x 14' x 14'. Could be bedroom or workroom. $250 month. Send references and inquiries to 863-1412.

## ■ COUNSELING & THERAPY

**Individual and Couples Therapy**. Evening appointments available. Call Karen Barnes, MFCCI (IMF 15742) at 626-7492. Supervised by Phern Hunt, MFCC, MJ009314.

**Lesbians in Crisis**. Insurance accepted, sliding scale, $40-60. Older, caring lesbian therapist. Brief or long-term issues of relationship, anxiety, addiction, and personal growth. Bonnie Crosse, MFCC, EdD. Berkeley & SF. 569-1258.

**Shame: Healing Old Wounds Through Current Relationships**. Therapy is a good place to start. Individuals or couples. Cynthia Lobow, MFCC. East Bay 525-2341.

**Transsexuals & Transvestites** Individual, couple, & group consultation focusing on gender, self & social acceptance, coming out, cross-dressing, and whole-self integration. Call Gender & Self-Acceptance Program 558-8058.

**Stop Shopping Tip #4** Overwhelmed? Tired of shopping for a therapist? Tired of therapists who talk too much, too little? Never smile? Counsel **all** your friends, tell you how to run your life? You are seen and heard by a caring, warm professional working with: creativity issues, early sobriety, grief & loss, HIV concerns, sex & love addiction, co-dependence. **Suzanne R. Fried**, MA, MFCC Intern #IMF 11585 (Supervisor: Denah Joseph, MFCC). 428-9397.

**Feeling overwhelmed?** Missing your life? **Marjory Nelson, PhD** is a compassionate, intuitive **hypnotherapist** with broad experience & a sense of humor. Sliding scale. 647-2845.

**Chana Wilson**, MA, MFCC Intern (#IMF 14289). Supportive and in-depth therapy for individuals and couples: relationships; grief; life transitions; recovery from childhood abuse, addictions, and codependency; enhancing self-esteem and creativity. Sliding scale. SF and Oakland. Supervised by J Cutler (LCSW #7797. 654-7560.

**Experienced Therapist** offers individual, couples and crisis counseling. Also issues related to bisexuality, AIDS, grief and loss. Wilma Bass, MFCC (#MA 021174). 821-1682.

**Healing Your Inner Child**. Have you reached a time when the meanings on which you've been building your life collapse, or you feel unable to find new directions alone. **Matile Rothschild, PhD, LCSW**, practicing more than 10 years, offers therapy for individuals and couples. In SF 626-7109.

**Feminist Therapist:** Through a down-to-earth approach in a supportive atmosphere, I offer short-term and in-depth counseling to individuals and couples. Sliding scale, insurance. East Bay. **Barbara Kaimowitz, MFCC**. 525-6118.

**Marilyn Girard, MFCC** is pleased to announce the expansion of her practice to the financial district of San Francisco addressing issues of: depression, lack of meaning or fulfillment, career, intimacy, co-dependence, drug or alcohol use, AIDS, loss, stress, sexuality—for individuals or couples. 843-2998. Info/appointment, lic #MG18866, 13 years experience. SF/Berkeley.

**Counseling/Psychotherapy for Men** who want to work with a gentle, safe, supportive therapist. At your own pace discover your feelings and needs which will enable you to make changes. Linda-Sue Edwards, MFCC (Lic # ML 021917). 661-8252.

**Gentle Lesbian Therapist**. I provide a place in which you can speak freely about anything that concerns you, whether it be relationships, HIV, depression, or simply that "you don't know". Alice Lavelle, MA, MFCCI #15024. Berkeley 549-0324, SF 346-8202. Sliding Scale $30-$50. Insurance accepted.

**Healing From Early History** means uncovering past pain and recovering your real self so that you are available to live your life fully. I am an experienced, trustworthy and empathic therapist committed to the joyful results of the healing process. Specializing in childhood sexual abuse, codependency, intimacy issues and building self-esteem. Individuals and couples. In San Francisco. Shari Levine, MFCC (#23662) 658-2703.

**Steady, Caring Lesbian** therapist familar with life transitions, grief, relationship, substance abuse and recovery issues. Mary Butler, MFCCI, 549-0324. Berkeley & SF. SS $30-45.

**Healing and Counseling** with **Lucy Duff**. Breathe. Looking for guidance in your healing? Dealing with physical symptoms, abuse, grief or loss, sexuality or spirituality issues? Guided meditation, grounding, Past Life Regression Therapy and/or counseling can help. Individuals or couples, short or long term. Brochure on request. Sliding scale fee. (415) 550-7406.

**Psychotherapist** working with coming out issues, self-esteem and abuse issues, relationship problems, AIDS-related issues. Bilingual Spanish. SF/San Mateo. Kristine Karge, LCSW, 468-8023.

**Problems in your relationships** with lovers, friends, or family? Sometimes feeling lonely and depressed? Seek help now from experienced professional who understands and cares. Call Counseling and Education for Well-Being. Walnut Creek. **938-7445**.

**What's Eating You?** Short-term counseling and long-term psychotherapy focusing on recovery from food and drug addiction, alcoholism, codependency, shame and guilt. My feminist/control mastery perspective complements 12-Step work. **Gloria Bromberg, MFCC**. Lic #MFC 27057. Sliding scale. Oakland/Montclair. 644-2229.

**Supportive Approaches to Self-Empowerment**. Psychotherapy and consultation for lesbians and gay men with stress, relationship, family, codependency, recovery, abuse, or sexuality issues. Experienced, licensed psychologist (PSY 10607). Castro area. Insurance accepted. **Diane Gray, PhD. 648-3883**.

**Long and Short-term Counseling**. Some areas of expertise: relationship difficulties, co-dependency/ACA issues, low self-esteem and life transition concerns. 922-6020 Trish Aissen, MFCC M19264.

Diane Mariechild, MA. Counseling Psychology and author of "Mother Wit" and "The Inner Dance," announces the re-location of her private practice in Psycho-Spiritual Counseling and Healing, to the Bay Area. Single session or longer-term, 20 years experience. (415) 663-1805.

**Experienced feminist therapist.** Verbal & experiential work. Especially interested in developing self-esteem and assertion, relationship issues, healing from childhood abuse and dysfunctional family systems. **Special skill in gay parenting issues & play therapy with children**. East Bay. $50-70, ins. accepted. Heather Taylor, MFCC. 843-4854.

**Lesbian Therapy Referral Service** provides prompt referrals to experienced lesbian therapists. We help you find a therapist that is right for you. Individuals, couples and groups. No fee for referrals. Sliding scale counseling fees. Call (415) 524-5090.

**Counseling**. All compulsions are flights from the self and the self can heal all compulsions. I have worked extensively with adults from alcoholic and incestuous families. Betsy Ferber, MA, MFCC. MF 23920. Phone 464-3098.

**Spiritual Counseling:** Compassionate and powerful approaches to healing patterns that hinder your personal growth, creativity and experience of joy. A safe place in which to strengthen your connection to your innner wisdom, and express any emotions that come up in the healing process. Guided imagery; re-birthing; healing the inner child; anger release; forgiveness. Sliding scale. Tori Bogart, 750-0946.

**Experienced** therapist specializing in childhood trauma, life transitions, single parenting issues. Open to spiritual questing. Sliding scale; evening and weekend hours available. Lee Bowman, LCSW. Lic. #LW12591. 583-4426.

**Focusing** links your conscious mind with the pain before words, the knowledge before words. You contact problems as they sit concretely in your body and work on them in steps of felt change. I have a decade's experience in Focusing training and in-depth counseling, and have appeared on radio and TV (Oprah Winfrey: Lesbian Couples). Specialties: mind/body healing (AIDS). Spirituality, ACA, incest, creative blocks. Sliding Scale. **JUDY SCHAVRIEN, PHD**. 648-1318.

**Therapy takes courage**. Courage to embrace scary parts of yourself. Courage to face the pain of your past. Out of this emerges deeper self love and compassion. I would like to support you in this process. I am experienced, empathic, and trustworthy. My specialties include relationship issues, self-esteem, getting in touch with feelings, ACA, codependence, male sexual abuse, and finding freedom from the inner critic. Convenient Noe Valley location. First session free. Scott Eaton, MFCC (#MFC23906). **648-6365.**

**Codependence to Independence**. Work with setting firm boundaries; speaking your truth; finding out what you want and need; nurturing your inner child. Diane Baker, MA, MFCCI (IMF 17414). San Francisco. 775-1537. Sliding scale. (Supervisor: Debra Zilavy MFCC—MT 19869).

**Couples Counseling**. Experienced in lesbian relationships. Therapy focused on helping you create a life together that works—facing obstacles in a creative way—opening conflicts to discover the person with whom you fell in love. **Toni Hefferman, MFCC**. Berkeley or Benicia. (415) 357-5183.

Experience hypnosis. Especially helpful for smoking, habits, exam anxiety, childhood memories, self-esteem issues. Phone Master Hypnotist Sally Smith. Office in the Castro. 864-2049.

**Compassionate and Caring** therapist specializing in lesbian issues and couples counseling. Individual therapy for healing from childhood trauma, incest, physical & emotional abuse. Through the gentle guidance of a therapist you can gain understanding and healing of past wounds and a sense of inner security and strength. **Toni Heffernan, MFCC**. Offices in Berkeley & Benicia. (415) 357-5183.

Karen Cotton, LCSW. ACA/co-dependency. Relationships. Incest. Transitions. San Francisco location. Evening appointments. Sliding scale. #LCS 11862. (415) 533-2183.

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**Obsessed with Food and Weight?** Women's group has openings. We are seeking two new members who desire a supportive, interactive setting in which to explore and change the dynamics underlying compulsive eating. Thursday evenings, 7:30-9 pm, SF. Sandra Backovich, MFCC 921-3426. Experienced psychotherapist.

**Eating Disorders**. Are you overweight? Or do you vomit because you think you are? Do you find yourself in the refrigerator hunting for something to eat—anything... do you eat while you drive and find that the food is more interesting than the car ahead of you... do you eat while standing up, while walking... do you eat when you don't want to, hadn't planned on it... is the food at the potluck more interesting than the people? Talking about it helps and talking to someone who is sensitive to these issues can change these behaviors. Using hypnotherapy or traditional psychotherapy, create the change needed to stop hurting yourself. EB. 548-1288. Nyla Gladden, LCSW (LCS14328).

**The Rebis Project** provides low fee therapy for individuals, couples, and groups. We work with relationship issues, lesbian/gay/bisexual concerns, depression, sexuality, ACA/codependency, living with threatening illnesses, griefwork, personal and spiritual growth. MFCC internship program. 287-5767. SF/East Bay.

**In-depth Existential Psychotherapy** for individuals and couples focusing on issues including life transitions, relationships, work, recovery, ACA/codependency, and loss. Supervision/consultation also available. Insurance accepted. Joan Monheit, LCSW (#LN10832). 845-1557.

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## ■ THERAPY/SUPPORT GROUPS

**Bisexuality.** Ongoing bisexual men's support group. Individual & couple counseling also available. Ron Fox, MA, MFCC (License #ML022194). (415) 751-6714.

**Gay Men's Therapy**: ongoing group to address quality-of-life issues, self-esteem, relationships, fear of intimacy, depression, AIDS anxiety, internalized homophobia, codependency and other issues. Sliding scale/insur. Info: John Beeman, MA, MFCC (lic. MFC23838). 626-6196.

**Women's Therapy Group** focusing on issues such as life transitions, work, ACA/co-dependency, relationships, loss/grief. Tuesday evenings. $30/session. Joan Monheit, LCSW (LCS10832). 845-1557.

**Lesbian Coming Out Group**. This will be a therapeutic, supportive environment for women to explore the feelings and issues activated in coming out as well as to share in the joy and empowerment of the coming out process. Some of the issues we will explore include autonomy issues with parents and family, changes in relationships with friends, internalized homophobia, anger, and defining self. 8 week group. $25 per session. Thurs evenings, Berkeley. Bev Parrish, MFCC (lic MFC 25752). 530-4973.

**Gay Men Over 50**. With other gay men your age, discover ways you can improve your friendships, relationships, and day-to-day interactions with people in your life. This group offers a safe setting to talk personally about issues of concern to you, to set priorities and goals, and to support one another in taking the steps to get what you want. For a pre-group interview, call David Silven, PhD, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, 648-0743.

**Gay Men's Therapy Group**. Ongoing group has opening. Learn about yourself by interacting with other gay men in a challenging and supportive setting. Develop yourself interpersonally, express yourself openly and directly, get honest feedback. Thursdays 6:30-8:00. Castro location, $30/session. Call Gordon Murray, MFCC: 552-2801 or Mark Lodico, MA: 863-2898.

**Lesbian Therapy Group**. Opening in ongoing group to explore yourself and your relationships with others in a safe & supportive environment. Thursday 7:30-9:30. $120/month. For a personal interview, call Cheryl Jones, MS (MFCCO-IMF12085). 653-7374.

**WOMEN AND HIV: PASSION AND POWER**

A women's HIV therapy and support group conducted by Marlene Ritchie, MFCC (MFC24627) and David S. Johnson, MFCCI (IMF12706)

✦

Monday evenings 6:00 - 7:30 PM

✦

For more information, call **David** at **664-6138** or **Marlene** at **431-5778**

**POSITIVE MEN TOGETHER**

**Weekly gay and bisexual men's HIV therapy and support group**

**Sliding scale**
**Insurance accepted**

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MFCC Intern IMF12706
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## ■ RELATIONSHIP THERAPY/SUPPORT GROUPS

**Lesbian Couples: What do you do when you and your lover have lost it and want to find it again?** Group now forming for lesbian couples who have been together for at least one year, and who wish to explore and learn ways of keeping intimacy alive in their relationship. 10 week group. For information call: Beth Gardner, PhD, ph# 566-8414 or Marlene Ritchie, MS, MFCC #MS24627 at 431-5778.

**Men Who Love Too Much**. If you are dependent upon being depended on, feeling overly responsible for the happiness of others, or give up your own dreams to maintain a relationship, a gay men's codependency group can help you re-focus. Tues and Wed groups available. For info call Tom Moon 626-1346 or Michael Graves 255-8709.

**Ongoing group for women on co-dependence and addiction to relationships**. Space available for women who are sad and frustrated about how love turns out for them; who lose themselves in others, put their own needs aside, take care of others at their own expense. Get support, explore feelings, develop new behaviors and improve self-esteem. Info/res: Marilyn Girard, MFCC, Lic #MG 18866. 843-2998. Individual and couple therapy also available.

**Separation & Survival**: Group for lesbians experiencing the ending of an intimate relationship. A safe place to let go and begin the healing process. 10 weeks. Chris Peters, MSW 531-8565.

**Lesbian Intimacy Therapy Group**: ongoing group focuses on contact, authenticity, vulnerability and other intimacy issues in process-oriented format. All ages welcome. Call Linda Hammond, MFCCI #IMF16027 or Julie Roberts, MFCCI #IR16594 at Vida Counseling Center 285-7635.

## ■ RECOVERY ADDICTION/ SUPPORT GROUP

**Gay men in chemical dependency and/or ACA recovery:** Well-established private therapy group for gay men wishing to add more meaning and dimension to their recovery programs. Members work on relationships, ACA relief, codependency, fear of intimacy, trust, self-esteem, depression, sexual and career concerns & other issues. Professional, confidential & caring. Sliding scale/insur. Info: John Beeman, MA, MFCC (lic. MFC23838): 626-6196.

**Longterm ACA Therapy Groups** for Gay/Bi Men. Tuesdays or Thursdays. Call Dan Joy, LCSW 285-6067 or Scott Madover, PhD 929-0778 for more info.

**Adult Daughters of Alcoholics ACA Group**. The focus will be on your family of origin, and how your role within the family has prevented you from making the changes in your life that you had hoped for. SF and East Bay locations. Call: Randi Hepner at 601-6262. Individual therapy also available.

**Co-dependency/ACA Group**. Longterm therapy group for lesbians focusing on recovery from growing up in an alcoholic family or being in relationship with someone addicted to alcohol or drugs. Confront the patterns that keep you focusing on others and their feelings instead of your own. Monday eves 7:30-9:30 pm. Call Mary Cavagnaro, MFCC 431-5342. 6 month commitment required, 1 year sobriety from your own substance abuse.

**Women and Food Self-Help Group**: SF woman seeks women interested in forming support group Monday evenings 7:30-9, ten weeks then negotiable successive terms. More depth than Weight Watchers, less casual about attendance than OA, desire to stick to whatever individual food plan. Call Bonnie 282-2438.

**Counseling**

Lesbian Therapy Groups for Adult Children of Alcoholics

**Chez Touchatt, MFCC, LCSW**
821-6039
LIC MT016090 LI13829

## ■ INCEST/BATTERY THERAPY/SUPPORT GROUPS

**Lesbians Overcoming Violence**. Tuesday evening support group for lesbians who want to change patterns of rage and violence. Sliding scale. Initial individual session required. Experienced group leader. Morgaine Wilder, MFCC 431-6564.

**Group for Lesbian Survivors of incest** and other childhood sexual abuse. 16 wks. $25/session. E. Bay. Heather Taylor, MFCC. 843-4854.

***Survivors' Group***

Support and healing for women survivors of sexual abuse and incest. Small group, safe environment, Marin location, facilitated by experienced psychotherapist. Begins January, sliding scale. Requires 6-month commitment & that you be in individual therapy.

**Taya King, M.A., M.F.C.C.**
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## ■ SCHOOLS

**Finally... A Gay Traffic School.** If you get a traffic ticket come & spend a fun day with friends; classes at MCC. Call for more info. 1-(800) 748-5933. TVS #00557.

Give yourself the pleasure of visiting the uniquely scenic Mendocino Coast while attending workshops at the **Mendocino School of Therapeutic Massage and Healing Arts**. Beginner, intermediate, advanced and specialized workshops are offered throughout the year. We offer complete programs of certification for massage practitioner and/or massage therapist. Ten-day intensive programs (100 hours) are being offered Dec 3-14. Bed and breakfast accommodations can be arranged. For details call (707) 964-7437.

**The Shi'atsu Institute and Therapy Center** is now open, offering classes in traditional Shiatsu bodywork, Eastern Healing Arts workshops and private instruction. For information call BJ Green: (415) 241-9740.

## ■ WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

**Coming Out One-Day Workshops** for women new to woman-loving feelings/identity. Each day covers different topics—all appropriate for women in any stage of coming out, singles or couples. Attend one or several, in any order—#1, Coming Out, Homophobia, Resources, 1/12/91; #2, Dating, Body Image, Roles, 2/2/91; #3, Lesbian Sexuality, 3/2/91; #4, Lesbian Relationships, 3/16/91. All are Saturday, 10 am-4:30 pm, in Mountain View (40 minutes south of SF—carpools available) $35-50 per day. Call Dotty Calabrese (415) 968-1981 for more information.

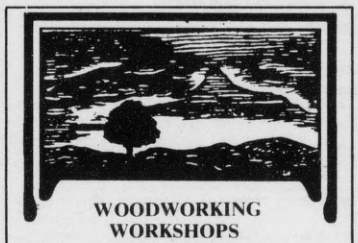
**Art Classes**. Both beginning and advanced artists sometimes feel self-doubt about their work. Making art is a way to rediscover and release our creativity. My classes are structured into three distinct, yet related areas: skills and technique, instructor and peer criticism, and exploration of aesthetic and intellectual precepts and theories. A unique and supportive environment for anyone wishing to discover new approaches to creativity. For more information call 863-5138.

**Orals Preparation** for LCSW and MFCC licensure. Experience with both exams. Individual or small group consultations available. Margie Cohen, LCSW 524-0738.

**Discourses on the Bhagavad Gita** given by Jim Gilman. Every Wednesday evening at 7:30 at 135 Beulah, San Francisco, (two blocks above Haight St. between Shrader and Stanyan). Class is preceded by a half hour meditation. Doors open at 7:15. No one will be admitted during meditation, from 7:30 to 8:00. The **Gita** gives the seeker practical suggestions for daily living as well as in-depth spiritual instruction in the Path and the Goal. Suggested donation: $10.00. All are welcome. For further information, call 386-6753.

**Speak For Yourself!** A women's class for actors, public speakers and others interested in finding their voices and speaking their truths. 10 weeks starting Jan. 25th. $250, limited enrollment. Call Linda McRoy, 292-5833 or Tori Bogart, 750-0946.

**Humanistic-Existential Clinical Consultation Group** for interns and licensed therapists. Joan Monheit, LCSW (LCS 10832) 845-1557.



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Furniture Making with Traditional Joinery Using Hand Tools
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## ■ DISCUSSION/ STUDY GROUPS

**Jewish Lesbian Poet** wants to form a poetry group with other lesbian poets to read, critique, exchange ideas. Diversity in background, spirit desired. Call Claire, 552-7216.

**A Course in Miracles** study group will be forming the first week in Jan '91, Sun eves at 6:30 pm. Will read through entire text by the end of Dec '91. Oakland. Call 621-2556.

## ■ MARRIAGE

**Chinese Lesbian from SE Asia** 27, sincere, trustworthy, educated, financially secure. Help me leave oppressive homophobic society for a life here. Reply BT Box DC502.

**Spanish-speaking woman or lesbian couple wanted** for marriage with Spanish-speaking Peruvian and/or American. We are respectable people looking for a mutually beneficial relationship. Please respond to 2261 Market Street, #215, San Francisco, 94114.

**Gay couple wanted** for mutually beneficial arrangement with lesbian German and American. Reply BT Box DC503.

Lesbian looking for marriage of convenience. Pre-nuptial agreement required. Reply BT Box DC501.

Professional American white male, 27, seeks Australian female for mutually beneficial marriage. I want to live and work in Australia legally. Reply BT Box DC500.

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## ■ MASSAGE & BODY WORK

**Healing Massage (and Acupuncture) for Women**. Deep bodywork specialist. Certified. Half-price first visit. Yohana Knobloch, 626-6026.

**Amazing Hands**. Trained and experienced. You'll leave happy. 18th & Noe. Certified. $35. Jim 864-2430.

**Experience Shiatsu and ampuku**. Deep, effective, sensitive touch to balance and support your **well-being**. Certified. First session $25. Leslie 863-0849.

**East Bay Beautiful Male Massage, Blond** Body Electric grad. Swedish oil &/or barefoot Shiatsu. Private sundeck, hot shower & EZ parking. $60-90 minutes. **Seamus (415) 848-2625**.

**"NY Touch"**. New to Bay Area. Techniques are tailored to meet **your** specific need, incorporating Swedish, deep tissue, oriental (Amma), in a nurturing, supportive environment. Sliding scale. Licensed AMTA member. Women clientele. Men by referral only. Garage parking. Gloria 861-9893.

**Rosen Method Bodywork: A deepening process**. For personal growth and relaxation. This bodywork increases awareness of what is holding you back from living with more aliveness: it can bring powerful changes to your life. I have 15 years of experience working with depression, self-acceptance, stress, incest survivors, addiction and ACA recovery, creativity and spiritual growth. **Second session free**. Certified, Rosen Intern Practitioner, SF. Mehva Renaye, 239-7873.

**Swedish Massage for Women**. Intuitive tissue work relaxes muscles and improves circulation and muscle tone. Be cared for and enjoy a greater sense of well-being with a soothing professional massage from Leigh, 285-8535. Noe Valley. Sliding scale. Gift certificates.

**Holiday Massage/Gift Certificates**. Give a gift of touch. Healing massage, acupressure and reflexology for women only. Sensitivity to size and incest issues. Sliding scale. Certified. Nancy 652-1811.

Healing Touch for Women—Swedish Esalen oil massage. Sensitive to issues of incest, body image, recovery. Sliding scale. Sonja CMT 255-8125.

**Strong, Intuitive Bodyworker**. I use acupressure, deep tissue massage, and energy work to help you relax, heal, and balance yourself. Sensitive to abuse issues. Those with chronic illnesses welcome—negotiable rates available. Do something wonderful for yourself today! **San Francisco and Berkeley locations. Maria 524-9337.**

**Elbow Grease**. Experienced Swedish CMT with integrated acupressure. Non-sexual, women only. Noe/Mission. Lisa 648-0436.

**For Women Only. Relax your body and mind with a Swedish Esalen massage. Call (415) 252-8847. Sliding scale.**

**Relax This Holiday**. Treat yourself and your special friends to the neatest gift, a strong, sensitive massage for women. Certified female masseuse: acupressure, twina, reflexology. Sliding scale $25-35. Louie (East Bay) 547-7254.

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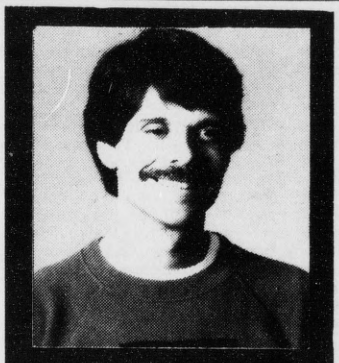

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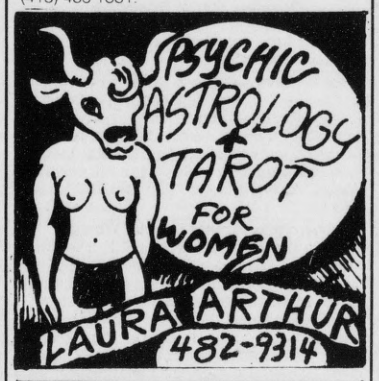
## ■ PSYCHIC & SPIRITUAL

**Emerge!**, a healing journal of Emergence International: Christian Scientists Supporting Lesbians and Gay Men. For subscriptions and information write PO Box 581, Kentfield, CA 94914 or call (415) 485-1881.

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## ■ MOVING SERVICES

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## ■ MESSAGE

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## ■ PUBLICATIONS

**The Big Ad**. A publication for the full formed man and his admirer. Call (415) 695-BEAR or write to 44 Monterey Blvd, #38, San Francisco, CA 94131. Send SASE.

## ■ MODELS, ESCORT & MASSAGE

**Nude Complete Massage** by handsome man downtown SF. 415-398-2441. Doug 24 hrs.

$30 erotic nude massage by a hot, goodlooking athlete. Bill (415) 441-1054. Will travel.

## ■ PERSONALS

Making contact with gay men in all parts of the world? It is possible through **"Intergay"**, an international gay pen club. For information, please write to Intergay, Haagweg 198, 2324 NB Leiden, Netherlands. Your name and address will not be used in USA. Reply by return of post.

**Uniform Scenes**. Meet gay/bi/straight men in your area into uniform fantasy scenes. For details on how to meet send self-addressed stamped envelope to: Liberal Arts Inc. 306 Thayer St Suite #B-161 Providence, RI 02906. Cop or blue collar fantasy. Gear or experience required.

**Phone Fun** with all the guys, guys, guys on "For Men Only." **Free! (415) 398-2260**. Check it out!

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# Astrology...

*(continued from page 20)*

ture, Saj, because this month you seem to run into it wherever you go. The truth is that your own behavior and how you come across are very erratic and even you don't know what to expect of yourself. That would (and will!) drive others crazy. For you it's kind of fun. While you're out shopping for gifts take some time to try on some new clothes and novel styles for yourself. You don't have to buy a thing. Just try on a few items you'd normally never think of and see how you look. Your adventurous approach to life these days is likely to come across as more than a little insubordinate. When you do have to deal with authority figures, pick your battles carefully and watch what you say and do. Your tongue is way ahead of your brain—these days, even more than usual. *Happy Birthday, Athena!*

**CAPRICORN:** Eenie Meenie Chili Beanie, the spirits are about to speak! Ghosts of holidays past and other psychic refugees are prominent these days. As an outside possibility, poltergeist activity could even crop up. (Poltergeist is just eruptive psychic energy that's been suppressed; like a metaphysical equivalent of a wet dream.) Meditation is especially helpful right now and dream work can have benefits beyond—uhhh— your wildest dreams. Little things are likely to snafu, especially involving electricity. Check your solstice lights before you plug them in—and know where your fuse box and circuit breakers are. Little problems are inevitable. As long as you can laugh at them they will remain little. *Happy Birthday, Katie!*

**AQUARIUS:** Do you ever wonder who your friends really are? Well, don't worry, Aquarius. They often wonder who you really are, too. Of course, you like to keep them guessing. This month they return the favor. Despite your "enlightened" image, you like to keep things under a certain amount of control. When you let go of control, share insights with your friends, and consider their opinions your best instincts come out. Nowadays they'll show you where your eccentricity can cross you up, but their suggestions, however well-meaning will be as much at cross purposes. Listen, consider, and reconsider. Their advice will provoke new ideas and open up new directions that neither you nor they had thought of.

**PISCES:** Everything is OK, Pisces—or it can be. Everywhere you go tongues are racing ahead of brains. Yours is only slightly different. On the other hand, your worst moments are likely to come up when exerting or facing authority. When talking with the boss, go slow and think carefully. You'll do fine! When you're the boss be gentle and keep a sense of humor. Dissatisfaction with your career is likely to surface. Well, we all have our moments of discontent. You have lofty—yes, sometimes unrealistic—goals. When you get discouraged, think things through and consider the difference between ideals and goals. Odds are you are doing better than you give yourelf credit for. Usually—and now more than usual.

***What's Up in 1991?*** *On Sunday, December 30, from 1-6 p.m., Jack Fertig and Jayj Jacobs will be presenting the Annual Prediction Seminar. They'll make predictions on general trends through the world and specific trends for countries and people in the news. Reserve your seat at The Center of Time, 1914 44th Av. at Pacheco, by calling Jayj at 564-2001. Registration is $25 in advance; available seats will be $30 at the door.*

# THE PERSONALS

## W WOMEN

**Passionate and Sensual?**
You are invited to respond if you are feminine, attractive, honest, capable of intimacy, and think creatively, most appealing are those who possess a passion for living and can be sensual naturally. Exposure to the arts is a "must." An above average I.Q. certainly rates high...an ability to "play" is required. No "full-time adults" wanted. Ages: 36-56. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 45, Mill Valley 94942.

**Are You My Complement?**
You are inspired by the universe and are grounded only by your spontaneity and creativity. You've reclaimed who you are by learning that only you and your higher power can fill the void that lives in us all. You are sourced by your feelings and know they are to guide you on your path. You are moved by the greatness of your own humanness. You revel in your own femininity and want to share that specialness with someone that can meet you. I am 35 and 5'8" and am deeply devoted to emotional sobriety. I am in recovery from all the things that take one away from oneself. I am steady and sure and have a great soft space for myself and others to be who they are. I am not afraid of spiritual power, financial success, my femininity or yours. I live in the mainstream world and want to connect with someone that lives on the other side although can appreciate and live in both. Take me to the rose garden and let me experience life through your eyes. In return I'll offer the unconditional love and acceptance one needs in life to make their dreams come true. Please, no practicing alcohol, drugs, smoke, work, love, food addicts. Reply BT Box DC1.

**One In a Million**
Attractive, serious GWF in 30's; wide interests; wants to make new GWF friends. Reply to Boxholder, P.O. Box 56900, Hayward 94545.

**Possible Winter Romance**
East Bay fem looking to network with other lesbians for fun, warmth, support, art, movies, spirituality and more. Reply BT Box DC2.

**Hot & Horny—Clean & Sober in Hawaii**
I like women, surfing, golf, hanging out on the beach, watching videos, or first-run flicks when they hit the Island. You are a woman, a visitor or Hawaii resident whose looking to get laid, doesn't do drugs, and likes to have fun cruising the Islands. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 782, Kihei, Maui 96753.

**Searching for that Special Woman**
Searching for a soft dyke or soft butch or very androgynous woman, any race, from 39 to 65 yrs, clean/sober; nonsmoker; self-growth; positive thinker, conscious eating, spiritual growth, stable, who likes nature, gardening, animal lover, reading, the arts, quiet times, bicycling, movies, music, travel, camping, ocean, humor, yard sales, etc. Write to me. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 7304, Santa Rosa 95407-0304.

**Sex in the Morning**
is my favorite—hard and hot, lingering and sensual, everything in-between. I'm 29, poet and educator, explorer of lives and cultures; dreamy yet grounded, happy with my friends and life, but longing for passion. Physically I'm small, thick-eyebrowed, sparkly. I thrive on water, flea markets, skiing, political arguments, reading, animals, long walks, late nights, unlikely connections, surprising possibilities. And you? Reply BT Box DC3 or call ★★1251.

**It's My Turn**
to reap the benefits of my Sagittarius moon. I am a GWF, 36 years old and looking for someone who loves romantic moonlit nights, kissing passionately, and just being yourself. Perferably lesbians ranging from 36-46. I am compassionate and very understanding and would like a relationship with one who has no prior ties to past relationships—such as wanting to try dating. Nonsmokers, no drugs, and an open-minded person preferred. If interested, please reply BT Box DC4.

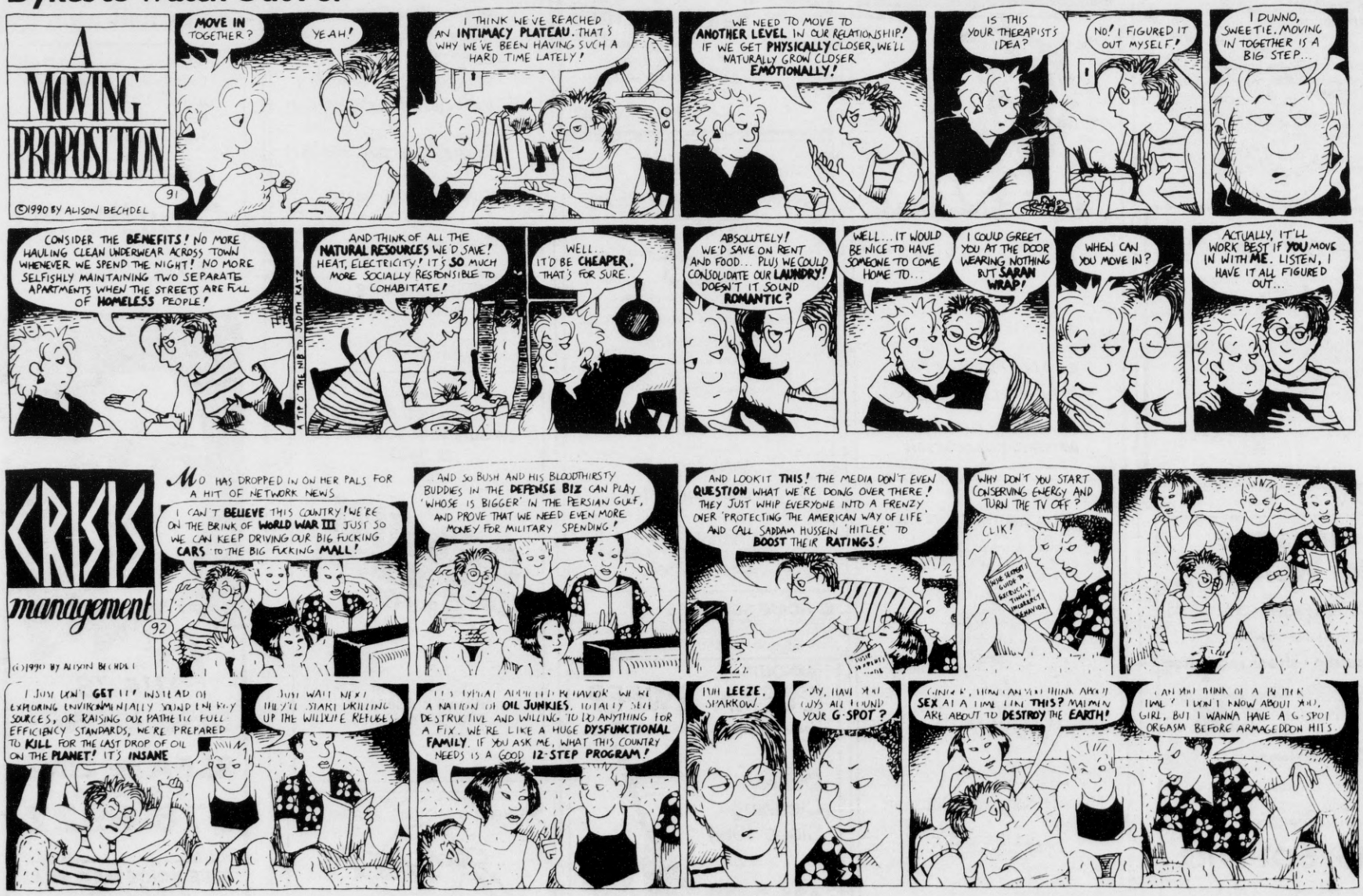
**Castro St. Theatre Bus Stop**
Wednesday, Aug. 29, betw. 4-5 p.m. This was a while ago, but I know you wore jeans, boots, blazer, sunglasses with long, blondish, curly hair. Reading movie posters. You said "Hi" to me: tall, thin black shorts, and pink long sleeve EMS shirt. You knew I was looking at you. Would very much like to speak with you. Reply BT Box DC5 or call ★★1252.

Athletic, beautiful, Conga-playing, dancing, educated, fun, Green, healthfood, ideologue, Jewish, kreative, lesbian seeks M-Z. Reply BT Box DC6.

**Kindred Spirit Sought**
I am a 27-year-old BF with a warm, creative soul encased in a 5'6", 128 lb. body. I am a woman who is very seriously interested in the virtues of friendship, honest values, spontaneity, laughter, and feminine intrigue (could be interesting indeed!). I am a former 5-year San Francisco resident and I currently live in NYC for career reasons. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 305, New York, NY 10274.

**Looking for love...**
...and I found it, here just a year ago. 1990 has been a year with lots of transitions and new adventures for the both of us. From a quiet meeting at Castro Gardens (with some onlookers), to curling up in front of our fireplace at night, we have come a long way in a short time. You have helped fill my life with love, understanding, humor, warmth and a little RHINO! I love you more each day and look forward to our next year together and the excitement I'm sure it will bring. Happy Anniversary, J.V.S. I love you—Roses Piddle.

## Dykes to Watch Out For


A MOVING PROPOSITION
©1990 BY ALISON BECHDEL
91
MOVE IN TOGETHER?
YEAH!
I THINK WE'VE REACHED AN INTIMACY PLATEAU. THAT'S WHY WE'VE BEEN HAVING SUCH A HARD TIME LATELY!
WE NEED TO MOVE TO ANOTHER LEVEL IN OUR RELATIONSHIP! IF WE GET PHYSICALLY CLOSER, WE'LL NATURALLY GROW CLOSER EMOTIONALLY!
IS THIS YOUR THERAPIST'S IDEA?
NO! I FIGURED IT OUT MYSELF!
I DUNNO, SWEETIE. MOVING IN TOGETHER IS A BIG STEP...
CONSIDER THE BENEFITS! NO MORE HAULING CLEAN UNDERWEAR ACROSS TOWN WHENEVER WE SPEND THE NIGHT! NO MORE SELFISHLY MAINTAINING TWO SEPARATE APARTMENTS WHEN THE STREETS ARE FULL OF HOMELESS PEOPLE!
AND THINK OF ALL THE NATURAL RESOURCES WE'D SAVE! HEAT, ELECTRICITY! IT'S SO MUCH MORE SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE TO COHABITATE!
WELL. IT'D BE CHEAPER, THAT'S FOR SURE.
A TIP O THE NIB TO JUDITH KATZ
ABSOLUTELY! WE'D SAVE ON RENT AND FOOD... PLUS WE COULD CONSOLIDATE OUR LAUNDRY! DOESN'T IT SOUND ROMANTIC?
WELL... IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE SOMEONE TO COME HOME TO...
I COULD GREET YOU AT THE DOOR WEARING NOTHING BUT SARAN WRAP!
WHEN CAN YOU MOVE IN?
ACTUALLY, IT'LL WORK BEST IF YOU MOVE IN WITH ME. LISTEN, I HAVE IT ALL FIGURED OUT...


CRISIS management
92
©1990 BY ALISON BECHDEL
MO HAS DROPPED IN ON HER PALS FOR A HIT OF NETWORK NEWS
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS COUNTRY! WE'RE ON THE BRINK OF WORLD WAR III JUST SO WE CAN KEEP DRIVING OUR BIG FUCKING CARS TO THE BIG FUCKING MALL!
AND SO BUSH AND HIS BLOODTHIRSTY BUDDIES IN THE DEFENSE BIZ CAN PLAY 'WHOSE IS BIGGER' IN THE PERSIAN GULF, AND PROVE THAT WE NEED EVEN MORE MONEY FOR MILITARY SPENDING!
AND LOOKIT THIS! THE MEDIA DON'T EVEN QUESTION WHAT WE'RE DOING OVER THERE! THEY JUST WHIP EVERYONE INTO A FRENZY OVER 'PROTECTING THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE' AND CALL SADDAM HUSSEIN 'HITLER' TO BOOST THEIR RATINGS!
WHY DON'T YOU START CONSERVING ENERGY AND TURN THE TV OFF?
CLIK!
I JUST DON'T GET IT! INSTEAD OF EXPLORING ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND ENERGY SOURCES, OR RAISING OUR PATHETIC FUEL EFFICIENCY STANDARDS, WE'RE PREPARED TO KILL FOR THE LAST DROP OF OIL ON THE PLANET! IT'S INSANE
JUST WAIT NEXT THEY'LL START DRILLING UP THE WILDLIFE REFUGES
IT'S TYPICAL ADDICTED BEHAVIOR. WE'RE A NATION OF OIL JUNKIES, TOTALLY SELF-DESTRUCTIVE AND WILLING TO DO ANYTHING FOR A FIX. WE'RE LIKE A HUGE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY. IF YOU ASK ME, WHAT THIS COUNTRY NEEDS IS A GOOD 12-STEP PROGRAM!
TYH LEEZE, SPARROW.
SAY, HAVE YOU GUYS ALL FOUND YOUR G-SPOT?
GINGER, HOW CAN YOU THINK ABOUT SEX AT A TIME LIKE THIS? MAIMEN ARE ABOUT TO DESTROY THE EARTH!
I AM NOT THINK OF A IN ITER TIME! I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, GIRL, BUT I WANNA HAVE A G-SPOT ORGASM BEFORE ARMAGEDDON HITS

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**from a Touch-Tone phone. Only 96¢ per minute.**


**Cheerful Pervert Seeks Fuckfriend**
Twisted, sarcastic, goodhearted troublemaker, 28, seeks kindred spirit for sexual friendship. I prefer screwing people I actually care about, but I'm happy being single and don't want a wife. I like words, minds, disturbing music, S/M (I'm a switch), and laughing 'til my stomach hurts. I dislike television, tobacco, monogamy, cauliflower, and the Los Angeles Dodgers. Special weaknesses for women with grey hair, nice asses, and/or motorcycles; however, these are not requirements, and anyone who laughed at this ad is encouraged to respond. Reply BT Box DC8 or call ★★1253.

**The Well of Horniness**
Lesbian, 36, wants to find either a lover or (lesbian) friends in the same boat: misery loves company. Mixed class, multiple "isms," revels in self-pity, and can't stand "positive thinking." A soft butch who prefers same. I'm relentlessly political, but haven't found my niche organizationally. I'd love a partner for travel (Boston), activism, massage, exercise, health food, TV/VCR. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 9335, Berkeley 94709 or call ★★1254.

**Looking For**
a hard-headed woman. Jewish lesbian—44—butch of center seeks femme of center woman with warmth, depth, sense of life and sense of self. I listen to NPR in the morning, KJAZ at night, and whatever in-between. I read, I play, I talk, I listen. I don't hike, camp, remodel houses or fix cars. I'm intelligent, compassionate, intense, and emotionally and sexually available. Match my energy and you may light my fire. No smoke, no drugs, no games. Familiarity with twelve steps desirable but not necessary. Call ★★1255.

**Well-Groomed, Healthy Woman Seeks Same**
43-year-old, bright, experienced, interesting, attractive woman looking for same. Been single for 2½ years and am now ready to pursue a romantic relationship. Prefer woman who is into self-growth, aware both spiritually and physically and wants to share a nurturing, compassionate, loving relationship. My interests vary from reading to jogging, writing, music, movies, theatre, dining out and quiet, cozy evenings at home. I am a nurturer and giver and expect a balance of give and take. Prefer someone strong, yet sensitive; independent, yet available. Good sense of humor is a must. Attracted to feminine and/or androgynous women. Reply BT Box DC9 or call ★★1256.

**Anais and June**
couldn't get together, but maybe we can. Attractive, feminine, career-oriented woman with style, sophistication, and substance seeks like-minded woman aged 35 to 50. I offer emotional maturity, a strong sense of self, and a willingness to take risks necessary to create and maintain a lasting viable relationship. If you have "character," are communicative, have a literary/artistic bent, and do not abuse, perhaps we could click. After all, who needs Henry? Reply BT Box DC10 or call ★★1257.

**Partners in Trust**
I'd like to be involved with a woman whose spirituality is very important to her, because I find that when we are centered spiritually then we can't help but be loving to others. I'd like to find a woman who is soft, self-examining and expresses her strength gently. I'm 39 yrs. old, a health professional and live in Oakland. I'm interested in women 35-45 who share these values and who have the willingness to work through their fear of intimacy. 12-step orientation so no smokers or substance abusers, please. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 20202, Oakland 94620.

**Spiritual Optimist**
44-year-old professional woman seeks kindred spirits for play, relaxation and intimacy. Caring warmth, easy and open communication with intact boundaries a must. I am emotionally available, into yoga, meditation, the symphony, good films, the countryside, flowers. I love exploring of all kinds. Nonsmoker, nonaddictive types only. Reply BT Box DC11 or call ★★1258.

**Tigress Seeks Sexy Cub**
Me: 39, single, white, intelligent, petite, sensual, playful, fun, feminist, bisexual, non-monogamous, intense, loyal, safe-sexual history, not into roles or S/M. You: under 30, beautiful, feminine, intelligent, funny, sometimes cranky, like to be spoiled, genuinely enjoy sex with the right person. Us: coffee, chocolate, red wine, giggling, singing, dancing, kissing, arguing, making up. Call ★★1259.

**Yuppie Seeks a Wife**
I seek a well-educated, articulate, financially successful, good-looking woman in her 30's who is capable of emotional honesty and long-term love. I am all of the above, plus petite, stylish, clean & sober, fun-loving and mischievous. I love cooking, eating, gardening and reading anything from trashy novels to the *Wall Street Journal*. Prefer slim woman with advanced or professional degree and a wild sense of humor. Reply BT Box DC12 or call ★★1260.

Sensitive, intelligent 28-year-old GWF seeks ladies for correspondence. Must have a good heart and sense of humor. I love music and am a romantic at heart. Friendship always comes first...then who knows? Will answer all. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 1508, BO7-30-01, Chowchilla, CA 93610-1508.

**I Must Get A Life**
My girlfriend wants other interests to enter my life. If you are attractive, trim, fem, 5'5" or under, like to wear high heels and be led around a dance floor, you're the other interests I'm looking for (no sex). I'm in desperate need of quality activities. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 3401, Oakland 94609 or call ★★1261.

**Urban Amazon with Star Qualities**
seeks director who will appreciate my flair and curb my ego. I'm a class act but love intermissions for shameless fun, and could just as well manage the box office as write a moving script. If you love listening to old standards but don't live by them, we could collaborate on the score. Comp. tix for honest, stable, slim, gentle women 25-35. No smoking in the theater. Reply BT Box DC13.

**Feliz Navidad**
Latina, 26 years old, 5'3", responsible, stable, affectionate and tired of the bar scene. I love to dance, into art, walking on the beach or in the rain, open-minded, willing to learn and try new things. I hope to meet feminine Latina to salsa, dine, laugh and share with. Please reply BT Box DC14.

**Emotionally stable woman Seeks Same**
Attractive woman, 30, interested in meeting a woman who wants to share a very intimate and loving relationship. You are 25 or older, and open to talking about yourself, your goals, your hangups, or whatever's on your mind. I enjoy swimming, tennis, softball, walks on the beach, and open, honest communication! Respond with letter and photo, if possible. Be straightforward, and let's see what happens! Reply BT Box DC15 or call ★★1262.

**Take a Risk**
Meet a woman who can share adventure, knowledge, love, romance, affection, thoughts, laughs, and maybe we can share our lives together. I'm well-travelled, educated, socially and physically active, over 40, size 10, short, nonbutch and can wear dresses, as well as pants (Is this cross-dressing?). Seeking nonbutch woman over 35, who would like to be friends first and share some interests. Reply BT Box DC16.

**Fabulous Femme**
Seeking big, secure butch to share good times. If you're 30s-40s and looking for a blonde beauty with magic hands, a limitless imagination, a drawerful of fancy lingerie and heels, and who wears them well, I can make your fantasies come true. I'm into girls who are into leather, motorcycles and exotic sex. I'm late-30s, big (not huge), well-proportioned and well-adjusted, witty, bright, creative, talented, somewhat jaded, like to laugh, a S.F. resident and single. Light substances/smokers okay. Reply BT Box DC17 or call ★★1263.

**It's Just Been Too Long!**
And you were wondering, are all the compassionate, honest, positive, open, and emotionally together lesbians already involved? The answer, of course, is no! We aren't. I'm feminist, "down-to-earth," 34, pretty happy. I love nature, S.F., bicycling, exploring, home, films, my cats, communicating/discussing, the rain, other cultures...I don't much like snobs, game-playing, or indifference. Looking forward to meeting you—this may be as good a way to meet as any. Reply BT Box DC18.

**Dungarees**
and sneakers, that's me. Down-to-earth ex-NYer, California convert (7 yrs) in long-term relationship, having mid-life crisis. Seeks outside stimulation—intellectual, cultural, emotional. I'm a news junkie (a day w/o *NY Times* & CNN is a day w/o sunshine); lover of Jeopardy (can you hold your own?); insatiable reader (Garcia Marquez to Cruz Smith to Leavitt and way beyond); health fanatic (but not overbearing) into yoga, stairclimbing, vegetarianism and macrobiotics; and painfully shy person who often covers with seeming extroversion. I'm 33, 5'6½," 135 (somewhat muscular), have curly hair and gold eyes. NO butts, drugs or heavy drinkers, please. Honesty, integrity, equality, maturity, and no role playing of utmost importance. Inner beauty as important as outer beauty. Reply BT Box DC19 or call ★★1264.

**Seeking Dominant Girlfriend**
Punctual, honest, physically fit, caressing, poetic, no bullshit, independent organic native seeks woman who wants to take me over her knee and keep me humble in a real way and receive my true respect and untamed devotion. Call ★★1265.

**Travel Companion to Hawaii**
Looking for women friends who are able to travel to Hawaii or other Pacific islands. Open to other suggestions. I'm interested in a quiet, slow-paced, contemplative time. Also looking for a weekend traveling companion with a car for trips outside the city. I appreciate gentle women who love nature and tropical islands. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 4513, Berkeley 94704-1513.

**Curtain Up**
Sane, off-center, funny, theatrical type (as in artist, not drama queen), early 40s. Jewish, feminist, seeks other like-minded Lesbohemians for S&M (schmoozing and movies) and more. I love writing, swimming, beaches, cats, dogs, kids, shopping and sharing my time with nonsmoking, drugging and drinking (light) woman who knows and likes herself, is able to communicate, and is willing to be-come intimate. I'm med. ht and wt, femmy butch looking for an intelligent woman with sense of humor and style, who values openness, honesty and friendship. Reply BT Box DC20 or call ★★1266.

**Fem on Fem**
Are you beautiful and you know it? Then I am interested. Let's get together and celebrate each

# Top Ten Reasons to Get a SF Bay Times Voice Mail Personal

10. The only thing you use your telephone for is Home Shopping Network.
9. The last thrilling stranger you met was your accountant.
8. You stopped kicking your cat out of bed because you like the company.
7. Barry Manilow is sounding better and better.
6. It's cheaper than a therapist.
5. Your shackles and chains have rusted out.
4. The last hot sex you enjoyed was in Fatal Attraction.
3. The only Twin Peaks you've seen lately are on TV.
2. The last wad you shot was at Macy's.
1. You want to get laid.

# I *WANT* YOU!

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other's bodies. Are you basically clean and sober, a beautiful fem no older than 42 and ready for sensual love-making with no attachments? You shy fems that are burning inside and afraid to call—Call or write; let's get together and burn. Reply BT Box DC21 or call ★★1267.

**Closet Case**

Very discreet, attractive, feminine, professional, intelligent GWF, seeks same for friendship, fun, and possible romance. You are intelligent, single, stable, sensual, and romantic. You are also 28 to 40, very feminine, very attractive, and very closeted. Photo necessary for response, and returned upon request. Reply BT Box DC22.

**Love Is Worth Giving**

Tired of the single life and am looking. So, here goes. East Bay. I am: Attractive, athletic, intelligent and friendly. Enjoy a variety of physical outdoor activities. Good friends, movies and the arts. Stimulating conversations, dining out and quiet times. World travelled. Emotionally together and comfortable with myself. You are: 40-50, intelligent, attractive, trim and "fem." Like yourself, have a good sense of humor and a variety of interests. Enjoy interesting people, have a professional attitude and a desire to enrich your life. Must be affectionate, a good friend, sensitive and can risk welcoming intimacy. Tell me about yourself. Photo appreciated and returned. No drugs, heavy drinkers or political activists. Reply BT Box DC23.

**A "Peel" to Me**

Let's have some fun with the personals. I am a 30-something lesbian 5'8", 135 lbs, who enjoys dancing, my bird, other lesbians that can play and have fun, etc. I'm fun-loving, if you are too then...Let's start the New Year with some adventure! I currently have a position(s) open, perhaps you can fill it (them)! Please send me your resume. Be creative and humorous, let's be intriguing. Do you like bananas? Reply BT Box DC24.

**She's So Fine, Wish She Were Mine**

In fact, I wish I knew who she was. For my 40th birthday it would be nice to meet someone who is open, serious, and silly. I am Jewish, affectionate, smart, progressive, and can be a good friend. Favorite entertainments are books, walks, and most of all conversation of all sorts. If you live in S.F., don't smoke, and have at least one opinion that is politically incorrect, please write to Boxholder, P.O. Box 31568, SF 94131.

**New Experiences Wanted**

Who's next? Me: 24, black female, mellow, odd sense of humor, seeking new experiences of life and of course women (not into bars). I like women who know what they want. Any race under 30 years of age. Reply BT Box DC25 or call ★★1268.

**Two Hearts**

I'm sweet, kind, and very loving. I'm feminine, petite, and pretty looking with smarts, imagination, and ethics. These are just some of my qualities. Please be sweet, nice, kind, thoughtful, considerate, gentle, understanding, and compassionate. I would like you to be loving, truthful, positive, communicative and not afraid of a long-term relationship. Please also be drug free, nonsmoker and like myself steadily employed and financially stable, ages 30-42, height 5' to 5'3". I hope we become Two Hearts for possible romance. Send phone number. Photo and description would be appreciated. Reply BT Box DC26 or call ★★1269.

**Me & You = Romance?**

Me: 32, attractive, feminine, professional, East Bay resident, nonsubstance abuser, like: movies, music, traveling, books, romance, animals and much more. You: 30-45, educated, professional, nonsubstance abuser, open, stable, honest, communicative and willing to take the time and energy needed for a relationship. Together: friendship and possibly monogamous, committed relationship. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 4243, Walnut Creek 94596 or call ★★1270.

**Friends First**

If you like capuccino and cats, the *Sunday N.Y. Times*, playful picnics, travel, or ethnic cooking, we probably have enough in common to meet over coffee. I am 40, good-looking and fit, fun-loving, successful and verbal with a strong aversion to substance abusers. Reply BT Box DC27 or call ★★1271.

**Purrrfection**

A pedigreed alley cat with a penchant for petting is looking for a hot kitty. Let's go yowling at the moon, lapping at decadent delights, catting around in cultural and counter-cultural venues. I could be a playful pet for the right top cat with a voluptuous top. Have your secretary fax your bra size, a recent financial statement, or accurate photo. Sleek, fit feline seeks same. Light or non-drinker/smoker preferrred. Reply BT Box DC28 or call ★★1272.

**What Would *You* Like for Christmas?**

You've been thinking about what to give family and friends, how about something special for yourself? Not available in stores, this one-of-a-kind creative San Francisco GWF, mid-30s, runs on solar power. tenderness and appreciation, no batteries required. I'm into almost everything but trouble (including sports, singing/writing, motorcycling, humor, garage sales, fun with friends, etc.), work hard (evenings), and have a generally optimistic attitude about life; I'm large but physically talented, athletic, adventurous, warm and considerate, and appreciate someone who enjoys quick wit during a game of tennis, an afternoon swim, frisbee or football in the part, dancing, shopping or other spontaneous inspiration (maybe even massage or romantic indoor sports if the chemistry clicks???). Light vices (wine/weed), nonsmoker otherwise. No fancy ribbons or packaging here... it's what's inside that counts. Order yours today! Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 218, Daly City 94016 or call ★★1274.


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**Lovely Fem/Tomboy**

You are as comfortable with your warmth, grace, and beauty, dressed up in nylons and heels as you are a down-to-earth tomboy dressed in Levis and sneakers. You have a strong grasp on life through your own self-awareness and acceptance as well as the ability to communicate well your needs and desires. You are attractive, intuitive, bright, feminine, a professional, financially secure, physically fit, and emotionally very stable. You are between 30 to 40, 5'5" to 5'10", slender, pretty, and a nonsmoker. All the above lists my own qualities as well. If this fits, please reply to BT Box DC29 or call ★★1273.

**I Have a Dream**

An Aries, can you tell? But most of my dreams come true... Belize and Guatamala (including Tikal), with a few extra days at a rustic ocean-front basecamp. Guided small groups, fun to share with a new friend—platonic just fine. In a year? More accessible adventures: XC skiing, backpacking, spirituality, log cabins, forests, water, peaceful exquisite places, cats, candles, linen napkins, flowers, wonderful food, good films, classical and Enya-like. Me? 46 (notice how many ads are for 35-45?), emotionally available, articulate, Ph.D, trying to deal with the frustrations of the healthcare system, work hard out of necessity, but not a workaholic, would love to put energy again into a primary, monogamous relationship. And I *love* intense intimacy. You? Probably not under 40, nonsmoker, not a heavy drinker, emotionally available, have experienced quality in relationships and have learned a lot from them, are able and willing to take risks, be honest, clear, and vulnerable. If you are tempted but scared, "feel the fear and do it anyway." This is my first ad—I will be a little scared too... take the risk... Reply BT Box DC30 or call ★★1275.

**Kiss! Kiss!**

I'm searching for a woman between 26-32 that looks and acts like a woman. You must be honest, sensitive, loving, mature, romantic and have a great sense of humor. Enjoy gazing into each other's eyes, love scintiliating conversation over candlelight dinner, and holding one another while window shopping on a Sunday afternoon. Me: Twenty-something, androgynous, romantic, caring, honest, intelligent and secure... I love making lasting memories and sharing thoughts about life. I am drug free and an occasional drinker, not into S/M, role playing or anything else that inhibits me from being me. Prefer same. Reply BT Box DC31.

**Let's Create a Party**

Two lesbians, 44 and 46, health care professionals, close friends, want to meet other available, single women for a January evening of fun at a S.F. Moroccan restaurant. We are both active, adventurous Aries women who are cat lovers and nonsmokers. Join us for a fun evening and who knows? Drop us a line. Reply BT Box DC32.

**Yield**

You *know* you're dying to. Being somewhat tough and proud makes it harder yet... here we are trying to read, reach each other. I'm a 44 y.o. Franco-Italian, mentally and physically awake, attractively featured, emotionally centered and intense, right-minded, politically left, kind, warm, funny, compassionate, financially stable, a lover of and worker in words...positive, affectionate, irreverent, lustful and lucky...that so far you're nodding yes. I don't smoke, use drugs (OK, coffee), or abuse alcohol, am monogamous, believe that truth can be the ultimate aphrodisiac, would love knowing you agreed. I'd value an emotionally honest woman—direct with me, honorable to others, attuned to and generous with herself. I feel especially drawn to dynamic fiery souls with open invigorating minds, striking looks, steady gazes...a self-possessed woman who seeks quality in life, knows where laughter comes from and how to tap it, is caring and compassionate, without artifice, with some panache. Please be good at/enjoy: conversation, saying what you mean (and vice versa); politics and sports...some; music, nature, travel, literature, lovemaking, observation, connections, being healthy, and good to yourself...a lot. Being similar in age, loving your work, having time for us, being financially stable are major pluses. We have eclectic tastes, are complementary, have traveled the world, been around the block, and are now heading home. If you've got brains and beauty (self-defined...and felt), grace and grit, humor and honesty, some sass, soul and seductiveness, with the interest and patience to enjoy developing a loving, multi-dimensional, mutually-satisfying and growthful relationship...consider this a roadmap on a 2-way street, an opened door. Be secure enough to take a risk yet thoughtful in replying: Christmas comes but once a year (But hey, no pressure...there's all of 1991). Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 460628, SF 94146-0628.

**Down-to-Earth**

romantic, seeks femminine, playful, outdoor lover for relationship to share: humor, warmth, honesty, fun-loving adventures, and the importance of open communication. I enjoy skiing, partner dancing, swimming, beach walks, movies, cuddling, ideas and conversations, good friends, fusion jazz, C/W, 40's & 50's, sexy music and passion. Would like you to be whimsical and nurturing to my analytical and energetic self. Like me, you're under 5'6", over 40, of medium build or less, and nonsmoking. Reply BT Box DC33 or call ★★1276.

**Better Living Thru Star Trek**

Old-fashioned girl (24), with eccentric streak seeks someone gentle and intelligent, possessing great sense of humor. I'm 5'7", funny, cute, artistic, musical, enjoy sports/dancing/the outdoors. I'm not interested in: Hard drugs, head games, non-monogamous types, bisexuals, SM or heavy smokers. I'm very interested in: Unique women, 23-45, with good hearts and minds. Let's go ride the park 's merry-go-round, discuss our favorite "Twilight Zone" episode (and why) or try a new music/dance experience! Reply BT Box DC34 or call ★★1277.

**Femme Wanted**

by big-hearted butch to make you sweat & wet. But first, let's relish the tension and let it build slowly over an intimate dinner, coastal drive or other dates that let us enjoy getting to know each other. I'm tall, affectionate, non-fanatical 12-stepper, considerate cigarette smoker, dynamic, honest, and available. Please be over 30, independent, and possess emotional equilibrium. Call ★★1278.

**Wanton Women—Where Are You?**

Let's have fun in bed and out! I'm a cute round femme, over 40 and ready for hot sex. I'm fleshy, but your size unimportant. I want a butch who's looking for adventure, lust and passion. Age not important, but maturity and sincerity excites me. Relationship to be determined...by us. Reply BT Box DC35 or call ★★1279.

**Pop My Cherry**

Yes, it's true, I'm the last San Franciscan lesbian virgin! Oh, I've experienced many delights of lesbian love, but no one has taken me to it's deepest (widest?) realms. Any ideas? Respond describing what a cherry popping adventure would be like with you. Can you help me stretch beyond this virgin state? Reply BT Box DC36.

**Don't change a thing!**

I want you just the way you are: witty, warm, intelligent, passionate, loving to talk and laugh about it all. I'm on the femme side, you're not (oh relax, it's only a label). I'm 40, Jewish, ready for life, love, and maybe you. No smoking and a healthy lifestyle (12 steps, 2 steps, no steps, stairmaster, whatever, you're important to me. Reply BT Box DC37 or call ★★1280.

**Ready To Begin, Again**

I haven't made love with anybody in 3 years and I miss the fun and power of deep relating. Music, performing, dancing, singing, laughter, the country, sun, water, spirituality, political transformation, zaniness, warmheartedness and "love" is want I want! I'm attracted to feminine women of all colors and my favorite singer is Patty LaBelle. Call ★★1281.

# Bi

## BISEXUAL

**Treated Like Princess:**

that's what is going to happen to you if you are right match for loving zestful couple comprising bisexual WF, 31, and hetero (but bi-friendly) WM, 26. We have an excellent 6-year, committed relationship and you could be a fully integrated part of it (full member of threesome, not "third wheel.") Get 2 for the "price" of 1!! Two affectionate playful, attractive people who want to shower you with love, tenderness, massage, romance and all-over kisses, plus plan our future together. We are enthusiastic, easygoing, enjoy humor, good communication, creativity, sensuality, joie de vivre. Some interests: hot springs, gardening, sailing, nude recreation, hiking, gourmet cooking, dancing, arts, massage, erotic literature, science fiction. Seeking vivacious, affectionate, nonsmoker with roughly comparable age and interests who, like us, thinks life is beautiful. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 12544, Berkeley 94701 or call ★★1311.

# M

## MEN

**Santa Rosa Giver Not A Taker**

I'm Portuguese/Italian, 6', 170 lbs, healthy, fit, masculine, U/C, HIV neg., very caring, lovable, happy, handsome. Tired of people who don't know themselves. Looking for friends that can make decisions, know who and what they want in their life. Send letter, photo, phone (op.) to Boxholder, Box 12291, Santa Rosa 95406. P.S. If you just want to get off, don't write.

**Affectionate European**

S.F. GWM, 43, 6', 175, slim, cleanshaven, versatile, receding hairline, smoker, HIV neg., like travel, good conversation and good laughs, cooking, movies, music. Am easygoing but work odd hours. I am looking for someone between 35 and 50 who matches the above and who is willing to open a mature, monogamous relationship. Reply BT Box DC70 or call ★★1326.

**Are You European?**

I am very attracted to well-educated, trim/skinny, fair-skinned, European men especially British, Scotch, Irish or French. I am a nice looking GWM, 36, 6'1", 180 lbs, and HIV negative. I like theatre, film, art, hiking, biking and skiing. I do not lead a gay lifestyle, but am not closeted either. The mind is as much a turn-on for me as the body. No bar types or smokers need apply. Call ★★1327.

**British Boy Seeks Penpals**

I'm 21 and horny and would like to exchange very hot J.O. letters with you if you're under 25. Let's turn each other on by telling our experiences and fantasies, etc. I just love J.O. Photo please and you'll get mine. Penfriends only. Reply Boxholder, Box 759, London WCIN 3xx, U.K.

**Q-GAM for Q-GWM**

My eyes sparkling, my soul transcendental, my mind sober, my goal determined. I have a body for your hot dreams, a brain like your gold mines, and a heart for your life. 32, 5'8", 138, are my stats. You be bachelor of 30-50 with refined nature, stable career, creative cerebrum. Friendship? Relationship? Write with photo to Boxholder, P.O. Box 360403, Milpitas 95036.

**Boyfriend Desired**

Quiet, considered handsome, independent but very affectionate GWM 6', 178, moustache, 42, HIV pos., muscular (nice chest, arms & tight body). Interests? Reading and art, spending the night. Dislikes—smokers, drinkers, Republicans and egotists. Affectionate, smart, and caring homebodies with strong arms very welcome. Your letter (and photo), please. Will return. Reply BT Box DC71.

**Black Studs Only!!!**

I love to give it up, but only to someone who's man enough to take it. I'm an aggressive bottom who loves to please. One of my fantasies is to do you and your buddy at the same time. You fuck me; I'll suck him. But if you're man enough, leave your buddy home and take it all yourself. Me: GWM, 5'6", 125 lbs, 30 yrs, cute. Reply BT Box DC72 or call ★★1328.

**Muscular Tit Man**

GWM, 40's, 6'3½", 182, lean, super-defined with prominent veins and a totally smooth torso. Moustache, brown/brown. Loves mutual nipple play, light to heavy. Your chest photo gets mine and will be returned. I respond best to lean/wiry guys. HIV negative. Reply BT Box DC73.

**Mature Man Desired**

GWM, 45, 5'7", avg. looks, HIV neg., seek San Francisco only, GWM, 45 to 60, HIV neg. You must be very established and also seeking a monogamous, loving, caring relationship. I enjoy the arts, cooking, restaurants and quiet times together. I'm a graphic artist, more passive in bed than not, who wants exciting, mutually enjoyable safe sex. Only very sincere, single write. Reply BT Box DC74.

**Bisexual Married Man Seeks Same Concord Area**

I am a white professional man, a young 49, 6'1", 180 lbs, muscular and trim. I am married and very much into health. I workout daily and eat healthy foods. I do not use drugs or smoke. I am very clean, HIV neg. and very passionate and erotic with a man that I am attracted to. I am looking for a married, bisexual man between the ages of 30-50. I want to develop a deep relationship based on trust, mutual admiration and common interests. I am attracted to bodybuilders, athletes and slim guys in good shape. Let's get together and see if we fit. Reply BT Box DC75.

**Handsome**

is what I'm called and until last December I was happily involved in an 8-year relationship. My friends told me this would be difficult and now I've finally got the energy to give it a try. I'm 5'8", 140 lbs, HIV pos., trim and healthy. I'm romantic, I swim, I like Etrusca & Undici, the Gay Men's Chorus and I need a playmate. Sense of humor, sexual assertion, honesty and sobriety are important to me and to you? Try sending photo and phone or note and let's see. Reply BT Box DC76.

**Fun-Loving**

Italian/Spanish youthful looking, 30's, 5'7", 140 lbs, beard, brn/brn. I'm masculine, sensitive, sincere, strong, very sexual and most important spiritual. I like spending time with friends and family as well as alone. I'm financially and emotionally stable. I love the mountains, writing, 50's sitcoms, movies, autobiographies, exercise, cooking, cuddling and necking. Send letter and photo and I'll do same. Reply BT Box DC77 or call ★★1329.

**Tit Pig**

Man with beefy pecs wants to play with other tit sluts who are into mutual tit stimulation and tit enlargement. This guy also wants to explore tit tattooing in order to make those nipples really stand out. If you want to work long and heavy on someone's tits, or if you want mutual action, make the contact. Reply BT Box DC78.

**ABC's Where R U?**
**(Asians, Blacks, Caucasians)**

Caucasian male seeks other males with smooth bodies or little body hair; age/race/marital status unimportant, but must be disease free, no drugs, good shape, no kink. I'm sincere, mature, educated, professional, disease free, don't smoke (OK if you do), no drugs, social drink, 5'7", 146, nice body, hung. Asians a plus. I live


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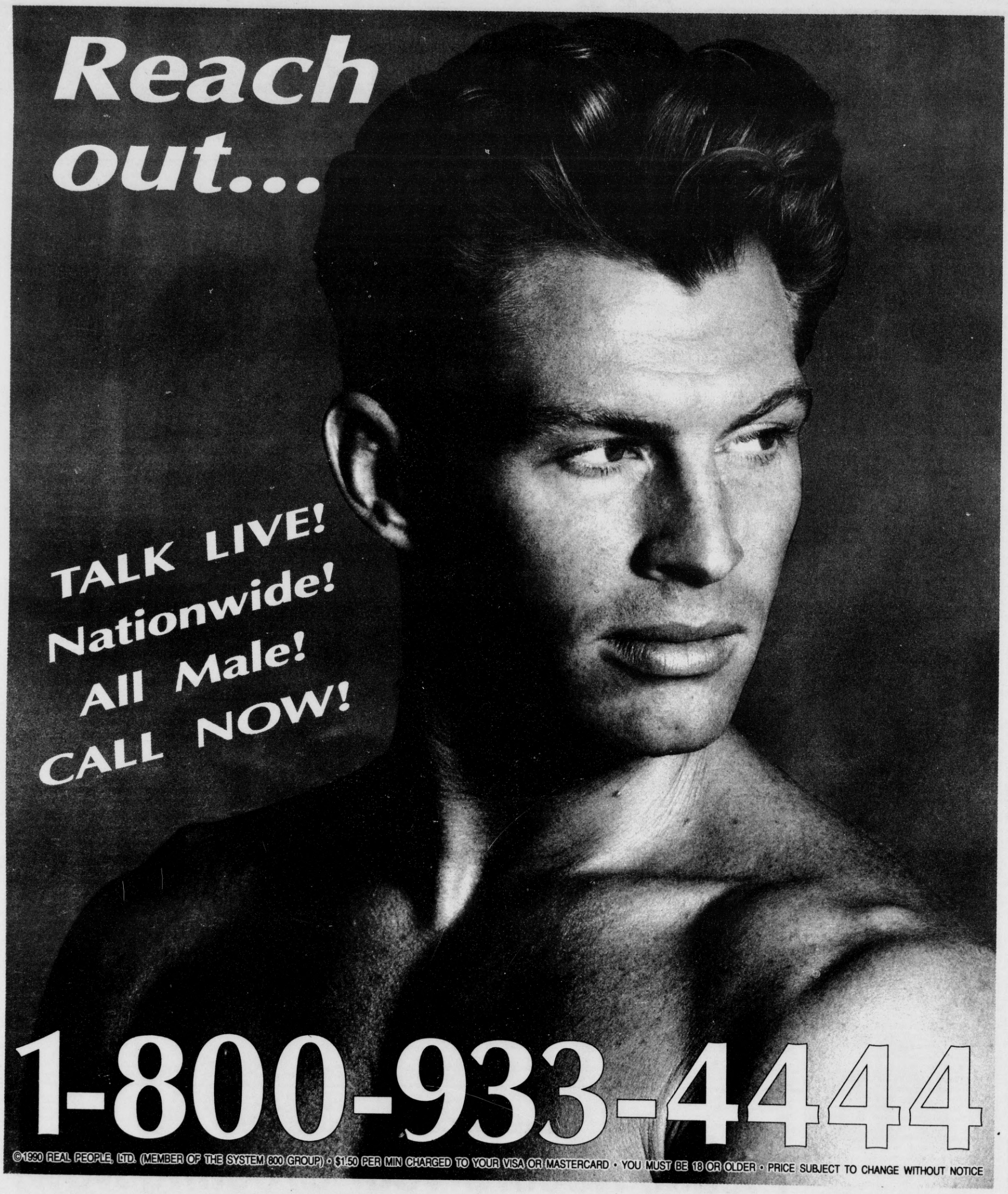
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30 minutes from S.F. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 5294, Pleasanton 94566.

**Bearded, Handsome Bear**

35, 6'1", 205 lbs, good build, HIV neg., seeks another large man for fun, hot times, hibernation, socializing??? I enjoy the mountains, beaches, movies, quiet times, spiritual living. Please reply w/photo to Boxholder, P.O. Box 474, Redwood City 94064.

**I'd Like to Give You**

duplicate keys to my heart if you are young, bright, unpretentious. I'm 45, 6'5", 185, attractively Nordic in appearance, a teacher/poet who enjoys massaging and drawing nude males. Gentleness, humor, openness, vulnerability, creativity are important to me. Write a letter (photo if you wish) and I'll respond with mine. Reply BT Box DC79.

**Rassle 'Em Off**

Come play & let's see how far the Speedos can stretch. These two rassle-freaks are 100% safe & friendly and respectful of all limits from the gentler side of locker room play to the rougher points of C/B, T/T, B/D, etc. Bonus rounds if you're a ponytail, dirt-pig or other reprobate. Dial or write Boxholder, P.O. Box 19237, Oakland 94619 or call ★★1330.

**Boy Seeks Toy For Dad**

Are you tired of going to bars hoping to find the right situation to be obedient? My Dad is looking for a muscular, sexy guy with a "Yes, Sir" attitude. My Dad lives by the Russian River and needs service while I'm away during the week. Three-ways are possible weekends. Please respond to me and I will forward your unopened response to Dad. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 64381, Sunnyvale 94088-4381.

**Looking for Love**

Affectionate, loving, romantic, caring GBM, looking for a man who is not afraid of a real relationship. The man I seek should be athletic, fun-loving, intelligent, and a romantic who is not afraid of sex or being committed. Race is not important. I am 30 years of age, you can be 30 to 40. No smoking or drugs. Reply BT Box DC80 or call ★★1331.

**Soulmates?**

GWM, 5'5", lt. brn/grn, very handsome, 38, look much younger, gym-toned, slender body, HIV pos., healthy bottom. I enjoy horseback riding, the beach, movies, cooking, dinner out, concerts, or staying at home in front of the fire. I'm self-employed and very independent. You—35-45, well-built top—husky OK! Have similar interests, romantic with a good sense of humor. You should be comfortable in a tux or jeans. I'm looking for a possible long T.R. Let's date and see what happens. Cuddlers and good kissers a plus. Light smoke and drink OK. Your photo gets mine. Reply BT Box DC81.


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**Attractive Tennis Player**

GWM, 32, 5'9", blue eyes, brown hair, clean-cut, healthy, athletic, professional, muscular, seeks GWM/Asians, 18-30 in SF/East Bay area for friendship. Prefer straight-acting/appearing, honest, fun, clean-cut guys. Shy/inexperienced to gay scene OK. Discretion assured. Let's be friends, write with photo to Boxholder, P.O. Box 272225, Concord 94527.

**Slim Chinese or Vietnamese Wanted**

Sincere W/M, youthful 41 years, 6'2", 170 lbs., trim, blue eyes, clean-shaven, HIV negative, seeks slim or skinny Asian, 21-35, for possible boyfriend or lover. I'm affectionate, nonsmoking, good listener, mental health professional. Plus if you are not into bars, warmhearted, enjoy some exercise. Write Boxholder, P.O. Box 210202, SF 94121-0202.

**Black M Over Age 55 Wanted**

Nice-looking, clean-cut, caring GWM, F/A, seeks one, heavy-hung BM over 55 who needs hours of oral service from deep-throat expert. Reply Boxholder, Box 241, 1550 California St. #6, SF 94109.

**Anyone Into Dating First?**

Masculine WM, 5'10", 170 lbs, attractive, 27, athletic, straight-appearing/acting, seek active man to enjoy what life has to offer outside of the bars. Would like to develop a relationship with attractive, athletic, well-built WM between 25 and 38 by way of dating first. Must be Masculine, straight-appearing/acting also. Photo a must; returned with mine. Reply Boxholder, 4743 Clayton Road, Box 729, Concord 94521 or call ★★1332.

**Uncut? Atypical Gay?**

Nice looking guy, 36, 6'1", 175#, cut, HIV neg. seeks uncut slender/skinny nerd. I love theatre, film, art, architecture, politics, hiking, bicycling and camping. I am very romantic and passionate and with the right guy, I find humor and intelligence more important than looks. Please no smokers, bar types or clones. Call ★★1333.

Are you a nice, masculine guy? Pleasant to look at but not described as "hot"? Do straight women your age seem to pay you more attention than other gay men do? If so, keep reading. The kind of fellow I'd like to meet is 32-42, HIV neg., a nonsmoker and in good shape. Don't care how you earn a living (carpentry to computers) so much as that you enjoy your work and are proud of your skills. You are content with your sexuality and yourself—you don't need me or any partner to be whole. (However you do get extra points if you have kids.) Do qualified applicants get to meet Mr. Perfect? No, just me. I'm soon to be 35, 5'10", HIV neg., nonsmoker, brown hair (on the way out), blue eyes, slender (145). A competitive runner whose pace this year has slipped owing to a new job. Besides running, my other interests include the Pacific Northwest (I'm on loan from Seattle), reading, theatre and travel. Live in Oakland, work in S.F. If you think we'd have enough to talk about over dessert and coffee please drop me a letter with photo. Reply BT Box DC82.

**Verbal Abuse Needed**

Yes, I want it. It's what I deserve. I'm a handsome 30 Latin male. If you can make me feel like s---, then you're the man that I need to know. I'm not into most physical contact except what you want to give me. This can only work if you are good-looking, between 20-40 years old, any race, good physical condition. Leather a plus. Body worship for right man. Photo appreciated, will return. Reply BT Box DC83.

**Friend/Lover**

GWM, 33, 6', 157 lbs., bl eyes, bl/rd hair, athletic, swimmer, martial artist, masculine, HIV neg., attractive, very discreet, nonsmoker, no drugs, professional, graduate student, Prefer someone like myself, sense of humor, fun, intelligent, Bi/GWM, 29-35, attractive, masculine, athletic, HIV neg., safe, very discreet, nonsmoker, no drugs. Require respect for professional and other life commitments, and enjoy hiking, smyphony, giving and receiving massage and new adventures. Reply BT Box DC84.

**Slim Chinese, Viet or Thai Wanted**

Sincere W/M, youthful 41 years, 6'2", 170 lbs., trim, blue eyes, cleanshaven, HIV negative, seeks slim or skinny Asian 20-36, for boyfriend or lover. I'm affectionate, nonsmoking, good listener, mental health professional. Plus if you are foreign-born, not into bars, warmhearted, enjoy some exercise. Write Boxholder, P.O. Box 210202, SF 94121-0202.

**Please, No Pests/Couch Potatoes**

Cute, F2 hybrid, thirtysomething, genus Gaysian (Chinese) of medium height with slim, ultrasmooth branches seeks companion plant, prefer white potatoes. Responds well to sun (running, walking, sunbathing), fertilizer (cooking, too), music (classical, opera), grooming (love baths and nice clothes), pollenization (safe, versatile, pray you're a top), greenhouse environment (am homeowner). Certified disease free (HIV neg.). What kind of a plant are you? What makes you wilt? Reply BT Box DC85 or call ★★1334.

**Playmate/Friend**

Couple 43/39 looking for a special guy to share fun times and gentile sensuality. We seek a long-time friend who is professional, attractive, nonsmoker. HIV negative, drug free, affectionate, playful, sexually versatile, endowed and emotionally secure. That's asking a lot—but we'll have a lot to share together over the months and years ahead. Respond with letter and photo. Reply BT Box DC86 or call ★★1335.

32-year-old karma mechanic, handsome, strong, and lean; very dedicated musician; mountain dweller; wilderness freak; athletic (bicycling, backpacking, running, weights); spiritually inclined (Gurdjieff, Falcon Press, Tao Te Ching). I seek kindred spirits for exchange. Write to Boxholder, P.O. Box 69, Camino, CA 95670 or call ★★1336.

**Asian Master Wanted**

WM, 5'6", 150 lbs, seeks domination from short, lightweight oriental. Into verbal abuse, leather, boot licking, raunchy armpits, titwork and working my tongue on your body. Make this slave grovel at an Asian master's feet and learn to love it. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 6655, SF 94101.

**Slap Happy**

Flabby 27 y.o. GWM, 200 lbs, exceptionally good-looking, w/long, black hair, brn eyes, trim beard and moustache, seeks emotionally flexible buddy for raunchy, kinky fun where body issues aren't a major concern. I love oversized endowments down my throat, up my tight hole and having my flabby chest and tits played with till I scream. Leather/dresses/toys and most importantly an opperative brain gets the winning attentions of this life-loving HIV pos. bottom for safe, sweaty action. Reply BT Box DC87 or call ★★1337.

**East Bay—Masculine Guy**

professional, good-looking, 32, 5'11", 165 lbs, brn hair, hazel-green eyes, hung. Interested in meeting similar guys who like outdoors hiking and relaxed good times. Call ★★1338.

**Spanking**

Strict Dad, 36, gives hot spankings to bad boys in need of butt warming attention. Prefer in shape, 18-30 yr. olds with smart mouth/bad attitude. Stop putting it off and write to Boxholder, 2261 Market, Box 155, San Francisco, CA 94114. Sincere letters will receive fast response with phone.

**Looking for a Quality Man?**

So am I! I'm attractive, 32, 5'7", 155 lbs, healthy, HIV neg., bearded, hirsute, humorous, sincere, monogamy-minded, career-oriented, and live in the East Bay/Lake Merritt area. Along with enjoying walking, hiking, coffee houses, films, kicking


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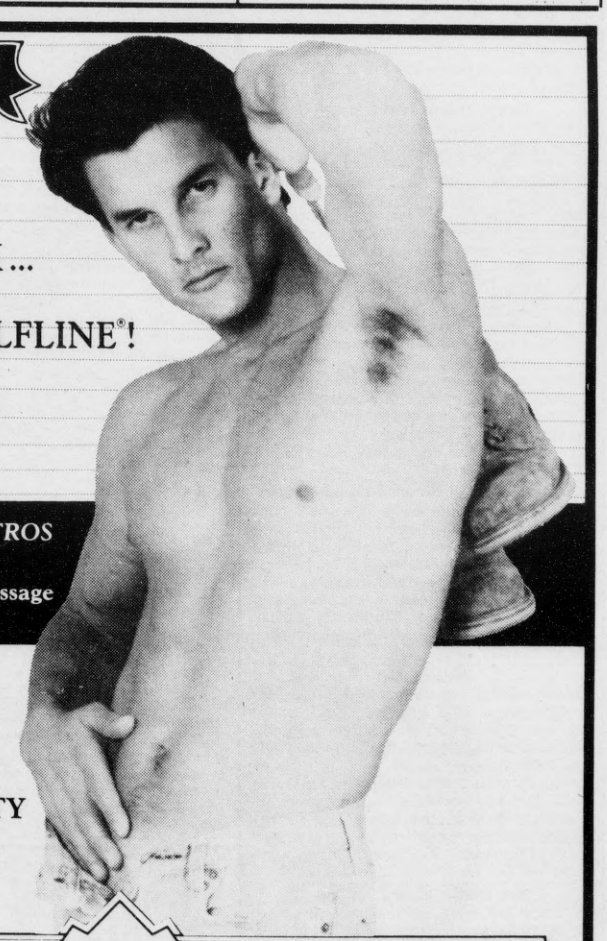

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back on the weekends, time with a good friend, meals together in and out, I'd like to meet someone who is between late twentysomething to late thirtysomething, reliable, self-sufficient, able to commit, and enjoys my schtick. Letter/photo appreciated. Reply BT Box DC88 or call ★★1339.

**HIV + Seeks Buddy**

W/M seeks a heart-connection and secondarily a sexual partner. I want to enjoy my good health, equanimity, career contentment with another mature, nonjudgmental HIV + male who is not afraid of the vulnerability that intimacy requires, who has and continues to examine the meaning and quality of his life, who needs a sense of companionship in his life, but who also understands that two intimates may not be able to exclusively meet the sexual needs of each other. I sorely miss having a soulmate/buddy/friend to sleep with, talk/listen to, hold hands with, be quiet with, share with, and hopefully have some physical chemistry. However, I've been around long enough to know that heart-connections and sexual needs are often divergent. I'm 6', 43, 175, average body and looks, am anally-oriented (FF/Gr), more bottom than top (that's where my "button" is—keys right!), but am an aggressive and spontaneous lover for the right energy. I would hope that my buddy would be open to exploring our mutual sexual needs, but understand that other partners for specific sexual needs would probably be a reality. It's our connection and bond that would be monogamous. I'm physically drawn to men my age and older who are hairy, and NOT clean-shaven, with short hair. Write Boxholder, P.O. Box 460595, SF 94146 or call ★★1340.

**I Like Ass**

This GWM Top, 39, 6'5", 200 lbs., brown hair and moustache is looking for nice buns to play with. I love to look at, touch, massage, tickle and probe a nice ass. Light spanking will stimulate nerve endings, then on your knees for a long, safe ride. You: attractive, GWM, 21-35 with a nice and hungry butt. Better call now—You won't regret it. Call ★★1341.

**Seeking the Boy Next Door**

Professional GWM, 29, seeks same to age 35 who is tired of playing games and believes that romance is still possible. I work SF and live in Walnut Creek. I'm masculine, sincere, straight-appearing and have numerous interests. Seeking someone willing to begin as friends and then consider a relationship. Important traits to me are a willingness to communicate, honesty and trust. Write and tell me about yourself. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 272532, Concord 94527 or call ★★1342.

**R?**

It's been two months (10/22), since our accidental meeting at the beach, but I'm having a tough time shaking the memories. No space here to tell you all that's running through my mind. We gotta go for an encore, but there's one problem: this man with the kind face, handsome chest and runner's legs doesn't know how to find you. Can you help out by writing to BT Box DC89?

**Sexy Athlete Seeks Same!**

Handsome, active, muscular WM seeks man for safe, discreet, athletic fun. Am 6'2", 180 lbs, b/b, smooth, cleanshaven, and versatile. Prefer masculine, dark, very handsome, versatile man who enjoys pleasurable experiences. Must be clean, HIV neg., strict physical requirement, prefer straight-acting. Am seeking active friendship, romantic times, possible potential for longer-term. I enjoy sports, music, film, sex. Photo (returned) and phone. Reply BT Box DC90 or call ★★1343.

**Wanted: A Monogamous Partner**

Intelligent, handsome, ambitious, athletic professional, clean-shaven, nonsmoking, HIV neg., GWM, 35, 160, br/gr who enjoys working out, cooking, romantic dinners, worldwide travel, seeks a man who can identify with the above, and is looking for a friend and partner. Write and send photo and I will do the same. Reply BT Box DC91 or call ★★1344.

**Christmas Gift in Brown Wrapping Paper**

Chicano willing and ready to explore great possibilities with another man. I love Sunday morning walks, country/western dancing, strawberries, the great Northwest, weight-lifting, baseball and a person that is interested in building a solid relationship. Attracted to all men of colors in their late 20's or older. I'm 6', 175 lbs., 34 yrs. old, good-looking and ready. Send picture and letter. Reply BT Box DC92.

**Young Man**

Are you seeking mature love and lots of support? Are you open-minded, 18 or over, boyish, sweet, good-humored, diligent, shy, aspiring, computer literate, (or wants to learn), artsy, and smart? Any rce, N/S preferred. I am your affectionate benefactor, a successful entrepreneur (51) who seeks your youthful vitality to complement my wisdom and resources. Come and be my associate-mate and share my life and business. Reply to Boxholder, 478 West Hamilton Ave., Suite 144, Campbell 95008 or call ★★1345.

**Hot, Horny, Masculine Top**

Hard and fast: I am an attractive, masculine, single, professional GWM, age 38, 5'11", 165 lbs. I am looking for a hot bottom for steamy sessions. Walks in the woods, long drives in the country, stopping for whatever moves us. I enjoy running, bicycling, hiking, skiing and the outdoors in general. My other interests include long walks on the beach, cooking, music, theatre, reading and occasional solitude. I have a well defined self-image and identity. I know who I am and what I want. I don't smoke, I drink lightly and I am HIV negative. The latter is not an issue. I am looking for an upbeat man. The first step is a letter. A relationship might follow with the right man. Reply Boxholder, 584 Castro St., Suite 108, SF 94114-2588.


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**Two Plus U**

"2 gdlkn, vers., masc. GWM early 40's" very motivated, in-shape. Nature lovin', healthy, creative men seek another ruggedly handsome, masc., vers., creative in-shape man to share wholesome Adventures & good times. Experience the country. Relax in the sauna & enjoy the hospitality of two fine fellas. Letter & photos exchanged. Let's celebrate! This could be a Great Experience... Reply Boxholder, Box 945, Mendocino 95460.

**Baldheaded & Snaggletoothed**

Slightly older and otherwise not a great beauty. However: optimistic, positive, life-affirming, off-beat sense of humor, enjoys company, experimental, sensual nature, great chemistry, sexually curious, can't keep my hands off you. Big ears are a special turn-on for me. Want a date? Drop me a line. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 460305, SF 94146.

**I Can't Cook**

But who's perfect? Attractive, hairy 41-yrs-old GWM, 6', proportionate wt., HIV neg., prof., can be a good companion/friend/kisser/lover. Interests include movies, fitness, talking, travel. Seeks monogamous relationship with attractive GWM, HIV neg., 35-45, who has capacity for empathy and sense of humor. Back to perfection: S.F. residency preferred. Reply with photo. Reply Boxholder, Box 402, 584 Castro St., SF 94114 or call ★★1346.

**French, New In the City**

30 years old, pretty smart teacher, looking for very sexual butch able to make me happy for sex, passion, tenderness. If possible, long-term relationship. Send me a letter, a photo, and phone number. Reply BT Box DC93.

**Handsome, Hopeful Romantic**

Self-employed professional, 35, GWM, 6'3", 185 lbs., blond/blue, HIV negative, nonsmoker, monogamously inclined, spontaneous and affectionate, seeks self-reliant man for friendship and possible relationship. Enjoy quiet weekends away, billiards, writing, long walks, working for gay rights, discussing world affairs and old cars, postponing exercise, and listening to Ravel, Patsy Cline, and the B-52s. You are age 26-38, HIV negative, intellectually and emotionally alive, goal-oriented, "out," possess sense for ridiculous, and can readily express your feelings without abusing drugs or alcohol. Let's get together for dessert, take it slowly from there. Your returnable photo a must and will get you mine. Reply BT Box DC94.

**Naturally Country**

GWM, 33, blond/blue/beard, 6'1", 180 lbs and handsome. Honest, straightforward, secure, masculine, imaginative, versatile, shy, strong-willed, smoker (not forever), HIV pos., and very healthy. Into nature, gardening, fishing, horseback riding, camping, antiques, romance, moonlight walks, etc. You: honest, straightforward, masculine, secure, romantic. No drugs (except maybe nicotine), outdoors type, but no frogs, please. If you think our sharing time together could be worthwhile, response and recent photo to Reply BT Box DC95 or call ★★1347.

**Thailand...**

...do you speak Thai? Were you born there? GWM, lived in Bangkok, now would like to meet Thais in the Bay Area. Friendship is my aim, but all things are possible, right? I prefer to meet people around my own age (under 30), but I'll be sure to get back to anyone who gets in touch...thanks! Reply Boxholder, 2215-R Market, #241, SF 94114 or call ★★1348.

**Destino '91**

Gay Latin male, 30, college-educated professional, seeks friendship and romance in the new year. I'm 6'3", 245 lbs, hairy and uncut. I enjoy books, ethnic dishes, languages and keeping current on public affairs. I'm nurturing, loyal and sensitive to peoples' needs. If you are looking for more than a one-night stand, please respond. Reply BT Box DC96.

Straight-acting, East Bay GWM, 25 yrs, 5'10", 145 lbs., br/br, dark complexion, average build, nonsmoker, HIV neg. I enjoy hiking, camping, gardening, sci-fi, the Eagle. Looking for a normal (read "not earthy-crunchy, exclusively into classical/jazz/blues or blindly devoted to popular gay-sheikh culture") guy, ideally a bottom into bondage and light S/M. I am very relationship-oriented and am not looking for sex! Reply BT Box DC97 or call ★★1349.

**Clean-Cut All-American Boy**

seeks GWM 25-35, who is clean-shaven, physically active, weight proportionate to height, well-spoken, racially tolerant and open to new experiences, non-materialistic, patient, willing to become friends first, adaptable, monogamous, with a positive attitude, who likes stimulating conversation, the outdoors, travel, long walks, and who is interested in the world at large beyond the narrowly personal. Please, no smokers, druggies, drinkers, effeminate types, role-playing, workaholics, bars, or one-night stands. I am a wholesome GWM 28, blond/blue, 5'9", 140 lbs, athletic, adventurous, friendly, intellectual. My interests include current events, hiking, camping, old movies, foreign travel, languages, and quiet times together. I enjoy working out and doing things at the spur of the moment. What I consider most important is being honest and straightforward in all things, sharing individual needs (communication skills are my strong point), and having similar values and outlook. Of course, we can learn from any different interests. Must be willing to move slowly in a monogamous relationship based on friendship and trust. If interested, please reply with letter/phone/photo (optional) to BT Box DC98 or call ★★1350.

**Beefy, Attractive, Professional**

GWM, attractive, healthy, 34, 6', 185, brn hr, grn eyes, full trim beard, moderately hairy, beefy-hunky build (workout regularly). My looks are deceiving, as I appear to be a "Butch-Daddy" when in reality I'm a teddy bear who can spend hours cuddling. Sexually versatile, turned off to men who have to play top/bottom rules exclusively. I can be romantic, affectionate, tender and passionate as well as intellectual, humorous and intense. Professionally employed, grad degree, tend to be attracted to like individuals. I equally enjoy being home cuddling, going out discovering the romance of the city, socializing with friends or putting on leather (usually T-shirt/jeans) and going to a club. Seeking to meet men with similar attributes (very attracted to beards, not essential), beefy-hunky builds, between 32-42, to date possibly leading to a committed relationship. The man I'm with needs to be comfortable letting loose, having fun and open to spontaneity and yet able to converse intelligently, not afraid of emotion or uptight about intimacies shared between men. If I sound like the type of man you are looking to meet, please reply with recent photo to BT Box DC99 or call ★★1351.

**Balance: Philosophy, Music, Slowhand Videos Asians/Latins/All Races 18-35...**

Good-looking GWM, 29, 5'9", 150 lbs, hairy, cleanshaven, seeking friend/friends with similar interests: Kierkegaard, Buber, James, Jaspers, Thanksgiving, The Far Side, Newhart, Twilight Zone—Matt Ramsey, Squirt Cummings, Peter North, Bobby Rivera, Randy Ramos (hot *Fantasies* but stable *reality*)—Sade, Elton, Aretha, Mariah, Ronstadt, Rundgren, Santana, Prokoviev, KKSF... Something in common? Letter and Photo reply to BT Box DC100 or call ★★1352.

**Sierran Discoveries**

Sincere, thoughtful and strong male, 34, attractive, looking to meet a similar man for friendship, hiking, metaphysical exploration and creative interplay. I live in Sacramento. Reply to Boxholder, P.O. Box 161732, Sacramento 95816.

**Be My Companion**

Very nice, easygoing, energetic, optimistic, romantic GWM, 45, 5'11", 170 lbs., mustache, looking for monogamous, nonsmoking Asian or Caucasion in his 30's or early 40's, interested in the arts, particularly movies, travel, music, great kissing and in time establishing a world of our own. J/O, oral sex only. Reply BT Box DC101 or call ★★1353.

**Lusty, Vanilla Sensuality**

Clean-living man, body-conscious, fit and strong, independent and unattached, forthright and unaffected, vigorous and affectionate, healthy HIV pos., seeks similar for primarily sexual relationship featuring energetic body-humping, mutual suck service, creative eroticism (your suggestions welcome). I'm WM, 44, 5'8", 165, muscular but not magazine material, bald, bearded. Your physical condition, character, vitality matter more than age, appearance, dimensions. Reply Boxholder, Box 30173, Oakland 94604 or call ★★1354.

Daddy-type, HIV pos., healthy, gym-toned, would like to spend time with a boy-type. You like leather, may have tattoos and piercings, and sometimes even act up. You understand bare hand spanking and keeping you clean-shaved are a source of bonding as well as laughing and cuddling. Reply BT Box DC102 or call ★★1355.

**Tired of Prosaic Ads?**

A UCB graduate student is looking/ For someone else given to thinking and cooking,/ And walking or hiking on mountains or shore./ Who agrees that the club scene is rather a bore./ I am 28, 6-4, 180, brown hair,/ And I'm HIV negative. I'm told that there/ Are a number of people who think that my looks/ Are appealing (or better). I'll mention that books,/ Music, religion, and friends are all key/ To the collage of interests that motivate me./ If a long-term committed relationship stands/ As a goal in your life (as in mine); if demands/ Such as openness, honesty, faithfulness, trust,/ (And the healthy indulgence of passionate lust)/ Are risks that you're willing to take in due time,/ Then let's meet over coffee (in prose, not in rhyme). Reply BT Box DC103 or call ★★1356.

**Masculine and Affectionate**

GWM, 52, young at heart, 6 ft., 200 lbs, greying, trim beard/moustache, moderately hairy, professional, sometimes dominant (optional), HIV neg. You are most likely 21-40, any race, shorter, thinner and have some interest in classical music. Neither of us smokes, drinks or uses drugs. We are stable, have a sense of humor, and love to cuddle. Reply Boxholder, 3145 Geary Blvd., #354, SF 94118 or call ★★1357.

**Rubens Lovers**

GWM chubbette, part-frog, part-prince, hell of a nice guy, usual human faults, desires meaningful, life-long, monogamous relationship. Also meaningless, quick, shallow fuck. I'm 46, 6', 215 flabbish lbs, brown curly hair (with the occasional gray strand), professional, creative, bright, not totally insane, kind, considerate (etc.), mostly oral, mostly bottom, mostly virgin ass (very few intrusions, all condomized), standard sized dick, absolutely *not* into pain, give great head. You're 38-50, non-chubby, bright, optimistic, don't smoke tobacco, HIV neg. Your race, eye color, tensile strength of dick, etc. unimportant. Write Cramped Resident, Box 156, 2215-R Market St., SF 94114 or call ★★1358.

**Proving a Point**

I'm trying to prove to my best friend there's a viable alternative to meeting men other than the bars. He's 34, 6'2", 205, balding, great sense of humor, generous, witty, intelligent and warm-hearted. He likes big men with mustaches who are sexually versatile, honest and emotionally expressive. He smokes, but where there's smoke, there's fire (I know, because his bedroom is right beneath mine). He loves sports, old movies and Australia. You should be HIV pos., dependency-free and it would be nice if you had a job. Returnable photo gets mine. Reply Boxholder, 2215-R Market, #247, SF 94114.

**Tits & Hard Dicks**

Tit play freak seeks mutualist who gets off by having his tits worked. Hands, teeth, clothespins, alligator clips, erotic abrasion—and with exceptional care and sensitivity—even cigarettes. I'm 40, balding, bearded, stocky, leather bear. Let's say I'm hot in my own way. If a clip on your tit makes your dick hard and your head tilt back and moan—contact me: Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 4343, SF 94101.

**Winters/Capay Valley/Arbuckle**

City guy wants to meet country boy who lives in the area for short-term relief from the city and possible long-term nesting. I spend a good part of my weekends in the area and I'd love to have a destination to go to and a companion to be with. I live and work in San Francisco. I'm a self-employed professional who is masculine, in shape and healthy. I'm bright, honest and sincere, good-looking; interesting and fun to be with. My interests are varied and range from being at home to roaming around. My stats are: 5'11", 180 lbs, brn, blue, trim beard. I am drawn to similar men in their 30's and 40's who are also masculine, in shape, sober and in charge of their lives. If this sounds good, take a chance and let's mix it up. Phone and photo appreciated. Reply BT Box DC104 or call ★★1359.

**Let It Be**

Masculine, down-to-earth, handsome, 39 yrs., muscular, aware man is looking for a big, very manly, hairy, muscle dude for man-to-man gutsy energy exchange, but, I really appreciate being affectionate with a man like this whose large physical size with my 6 ft, 180 lb. body opens up the vulnerable parts in me, for us to try to learn to share our heart, and remain open, innocent. Show our fears in acceptance. Work on addictions. Accept our differences. Expand the mind, Into the beauty of Nature. Try to relate to our Infinity that guides us, while we are in the process. Merry Christmas, dudes. I love you all. Reply BT Box DC105.

**We can win!**

Bodybuilder, leatherman—top, into a spectrum of sexual scenes. I seek a partner who would get off on my public accomplishments/goals. I work full time but need some financial assistance to reach my goals. The two of us can win it all! Meanwhile, we take care of each other's emotional/sexual needs. Reply Boxholder, 2215-R Market St., #245, SF 94114 or call ★★1360.

**City Tale**

Nights before a fire, your head on my lap. Weekends at the River. City jobs. Friends complete our family. You love my strength and intelligence. I love the way you make us laugh. We talk through the rough times. The crisis hit us. But you look up at me and I safely drive you crazy with my...kisses. 44, 6', dark 'stache. Reply BT Box DC106.

**Excuse Me, Scrotum?**

Attractive GWM, 33, 6'2", 180, brn/grn, trim, HIV neg., wants to meet guys for fun, friendship and frolics. I want to explore my sexuality w/o getting destructive. Smokers okay but no drugs/dregs/drags. I'm honest and emotionally engagable, creative and funny and smart. What about you? Let me know. Be yourself. Send letter & photo to BT Box DC107 or call ★★1361.

**Football Players Get You Hot?**

Like dominant beefy guys? If rugged good looks, heavy thighs, muscled arms, big neck, love handles and a beer gut start your motor, then contact this ex-military, blue-collar WM 43, who's very masculine and assertive but sensible, smart and supportive. I seek a younger guy that wants guidance from a big guy that he can hold on to. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 11582, SF 94101-7582 or call ★★1362.

**Exhibitionist**

Any voyeurs out there that would get off on taking nasty, explicit, kinky photos of me? Not interested in video, just photos. I've been an exhibitionist for about 12 years now. Me: 35, always hard and ready to be photographed, everything from nude shots to kink, cigar and kpipe smoker, drug free, HIV negative. I'll supply the film and developing. You: 32-60, camera at the ready, facial hair, smoker (or you don't mind), drug free. Maybe you're an exhibitionist as well, duo scenes greatly enhance my performance! Send photo, letter telling me what your interests are, and phone number to BT Box DC108.

**Friend or Lover**

I want a special friend, companion or if things work out a lover, more or less in that order. I am a GWM, 55, 5'7", 145 lbs, HIV neg., small endowed, who enjoys cuddling and all types of safe sex. Looking for someone over 40, under 5'9", slender build, little body and facial hair, no smoker, drug-free, light drinker, mustache OK, who enjoys movies, dining out, fine arts events and quiet evenings at home. If this sounds good


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to you, please send response and photo to BT Box DC109.

**Attractive, Caring, HIV+**

Seeks a secure guy for fun and romance. My interests include activities such as gym workouts, swimming, down-hill skiing, hiking and biking. I also like to cook (mostly vegetarian), art, music, spirited conversations, terrace gardening, and personal growth work. I am fun, creative, adventuresome, humorous, intelligent, confident and masculine (with a boyish side). I'm affectionate, sensitive, compassionate, honest, giving and willing to be vulnerable. I'm 37, 5'0", 140, trim and smooth with a great smile. I'd like to meet a peer who is attractive, in great shape, nonsmoker, and shares some of my interests and qualities. If that's you, please send a letter with photo/phone. Reply BT Box DC110.

**Co-Pilot to Pilot**

Professional W/M 38, 5'9", 155, brn/brn, hairy, HIV neg., boyish/masculine good looks, top/versatile, seeks a stocky, hairy HIV neg. bl/bl, bottom/versatile, W/M for a loving relationship. You're a house painter, horse rider, pilot, architect or...? (10 points for an Aussie or southern accent). Like children, the outdoors, the arts, animals, life. Photo (returned) and letter to Boxholder, P.O. Box 20896, Oakland 94620.

**Central Contra Costa County**

GWM, 29, 6'1", 165#, green eyes, brown hair, moustache, clean cut, healthy, HIV neg., muscular, professional, financially secure, seeks thin/muscular, smoke and drug free, GWM, 25-30 for friendship/possible relationship. Your returnable photo appreciated. Reply BT Box DC111 or call ★★1363.

**Hey, Loser**

Fat man seeks WIMP: White, Intelligent, Masculine, Passive. You can't make your life click and need big daddy/lover/master to take over, use you and illuminate you. Science, comedy, orgasms art and a future. Me: W/M, brn/brn, 6'1", 300+, 40. You: 24-40, self-supporting, medium to husky, not too ugly, w/hunger for new heart. Sincere only, photo and long letter (or tape). Will answer all. Reply Boxholder, Box 12631, Berkeley 94701.

**Big Loveable Bear**

Commitment? Relationship? One-on-one? Sharing your life with another? Is this something you are looking for also? Then let's get together and discuss it further. Me: 34 y/o, 6', 285#, light brown hair, trim beard, blue eyes, professional, warm caring and sincere. Looking for the same. Take a chance! Reply BT Box DC112 or call ★★1364.

**Your mission, should...**

Handsome, athletic top, 30's, professional, HIV neg., looking for handsome, older, hot, HIV neg., stud to dominate and love. This mission is only open to those who are in peak physical shape and in possession of heart, humor and imagination. Object: Mutual joy, exploration and much more. Reply with photo to Boxholder, P.O. Box 26628, SF 94126. This message will self-destruct in five seconds...

**Help Me Out**

Smart, slim, literate, affectionate, sweet, enthusiastic, idealistic WM, 38, 6', 155, seeks healthy Toppish man of experience, 30-45. Physical endurance a must. Foreign language speakers welcome. My interests include classical and ethnic music, cycling, naturism, massage, cycling, browsing bookstores. No one-nighters, please. Reply BT Box DC113 or call ★★1365.

**Comfortable Shoes!**

It's taken me a while to realize that the most important thing about meeting a man in a gay bar is that you've got to stand around too long! My feet hurt—not that I am a defeatist), and besides I don't like the music, smoke or booze in the bars. I'm GWM, HIV neg., 160 pounds, 5'9", Top, handsome, with great grey hair, a 52-year-old man who is interested in meeting GWM 30-45 who wants/needs a friend or lover, and some of the good things of life: theater, concerts, hiking, reading the *Sunday Times* in bed, being joyous, sharing and caring. Shoe fit? Your photograph and letter for mine. Reply BT Box DC114 or call ★★1366.

**WPWA Seeks BPWA**

Handsome, masculine, educated and easygoing man in early thirties still relatively healthy and active. Financially stable, but richest in my enthusiasm for making the most of the moment. Looking for similar Black "early retiree" to share matinees, workouts, meals, our bed and whatever comes to mind. Shy at first, I have deep reserves of love and loyalty if you scratch the surface. Photo/phone please. All returned. Reply BT Box DC115 or call ★★1367.

**Earthman Wanted**

by intraterrestrial explorer. I am 34, 6', 220 lb., handsome, bearded, biracial (Black/White) teddy bear who is affectionate and artistic. I'm drawn to red, grey, facial hair, recovery, idea sharing, and appreciate many kinds of men. High on my list are interpersonal growth, spiritual contact and animal lust. If interested, send photo and letter and I will respond. Reply BT Box DC116.

**Where Are All the Normal Couples?**

We're not into anything strange—just two normal, professional thirty-something guys looking for other straight-acting guys/couples to hang around with, do dinner, theater, movies. We're interested in finding some new friends, and hopefully you are too. Please drop us a short note. Reply BT Box DC117 or call ★★1368.

**Can't Touch This**

...maybe you can. Looking for attractive straight-acting/appearing (GWM preferred, but not necessary). Should be 5'5" to 5'11", lean to med. build, and HIV negative. I am Filipino American, 25, 5'5", 154, with a natural muscular build, very attractive and HIV negative. Into soccer, volleyball, karate, skiing, etc. Into music and dance (soul & pop). Ambitious and confident professional/student and in some ways conservative. Very discreet, straight-acting and new to scene, looking for possible relationship or buddies to hang out with. Please write, with phone number and picture if possible, will return. Reply BT Box DC118 or call ★★1369.

**Old-Fashioned Romantic—Available Now**

Professional, stable, GWM, late 30's, 6'1", healthy, hunky body with good equipment, thick moustache, brown hair, deep hazel eyes, nonsmoker-drug user, light drinker, seeks that special man to explore life with, get to know, date, be vulnerable with and maybe establish a relationship with. I'm open to meeting quality GWM's 28-39 yrs. who are open to a possible commitment and are not afraid to take the chance that they might find that they can give as well as receive affection. My friends say I'm attractive and I'd make a good catch, but am the quiet and shy type and find it hard to meet quality men through the usual scenes, bars etc. My interests are many and include: the outdoors, gourmet cooking, fine wines, local & international travel, old movies music, antiques, romance, cuddling up, hot & safe sex, communication and honesty are musts, foreskins nice—but not mandatory. If any of the above sparks your interest, I invite your letter with recent photo. Life is too short not to experience it with someone special. Take a chance. Potential boyfriend material. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 14186, SF 94114.

**Dear Santa**

Send a big moustachioed, swashbuckling knight in armor (or leather) with the ability to communicate openly and honestly for this 31-year-old Portuguese, recovering, tattooed, romantic artist. Intense chemistry necessary to take our breath and make us sweat. Reply BT Box DC119.

**Tall, Young, Monogamous Top**

Looking for a significant other? Capable of intimacy? Are you ready for a lifetime, loving, monogamous relationship? I am 32, 6'3", 185#, HIV negative, a nonsmoker, and would like to meet another GWM, 25-45, who shares similar values and life goals. You may find me handsome with my dark hair and eyes, and trim beard. I'm a gentle, endowed, and romantic top looking for a partner, who like myself also enjoys touching, cuddling, and massage. You'll find that I have a warm and loving personality, am happy with life, secure and comfortable with myself, and stable and successful in my career. I love being outdoors in a natural setting, and enjoy lots of physical activities, good friends, and a variety of music, among other things. I'd love to share a balanced lifestyle and home with another masculine, sensitive, intelligent, affectionate man. If this could be you , reply with returnable photo to BT Box DC120 or call ★★1370.

**Very Americanized Asian**

Asian male, 24, mostly Top, wants to meet white males 18-26 for fun, friendship, and possible relationship. I'm really not the kind of Asian you'd meet at the 'N Touch or the End-Up. You'll find me very different and I'm not a snob. I'm also very discreet. Send your photo (any photo, don't be shy) and introductory letter to receive mine. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 282066, SF 94128 or call ★★1371.

**Almost Everything...**

I'm an attractive GWM, 39, 6', 175#, brn/blu, HIV+, healthy, intelligent, very active entrepreneur and consultant with many friends and a generally satisfying life. I'm very serious about certain subjects but can be fun too; I like reading, writing, travel, all the usual entertainments, and any activity related to the sea. I would like to create an intimate, loving, committed, complete relationship with a similar GWM of integrity, preferably younger than me, who sees the glass as half full rather than half empty and wants to fully explore what life and the world have to offer. Reply BT Box DC121 or call ★★1372.

**Take a Chance!**

Good-looking Asian American with his act together seeks new friends and possibly more. I'm 5'8", 135#, mid-30's, with a firm, defined build, financially and emotionally stable, and a romantic at heart. Into outdoors, travel, motorcycles, cuddling, camping, bowling, long conversations, and exploring/experiencing life. I'm ready to be vulnerable, share, and build a life together with someone. Also looking for a roommate. Let's talk! Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 6324, SF 94101 or call ★★1373.

**Butterscotch & Vanilla**

Cheerful, but introspective, nonsmoker, Asian computer programmer, 33, 5'7", 135#, likes C/W dancing, volleyball, and basketball, seeks fit masc. WM for dance partner, friend, and who knows what—my big house can get real lonely. Eight years in the country, my English is good, but I enjoy friendly coaching. Let's not spend the holidays alone again. Reply BT Box DC122 with photo or call ★★1374.

**Paradox**

I am a 30 y.o. HIV neg. relationship-oriented GWM. A professional, semi-athletic, attractive,

# Get $4 Off the price of your SF Bay Times Personal Ad if you sign up for a FREE Call Star Voice Mail Box!

## How To Respond to a "Call Star" Personal Ad

**CALL 1-900-844-2-GAY.** Using a Touch-Tone phone, you can reply to any ad that has "Call ★★" with a Call Star Extension number. This is your chance to hear the advertiser's voice! Call their extension and leave a personalized message, or see if this sounds like an advertiser you'd like to write to. It's almost as easy as leaving a message on a friend's answering machine. And the advertiser gets your message immediately.

**FOLLOW THE EASY INSTRUCTIONS** when you call. You can either enter the Call Star Extension of a specific ad that interests you, or you can browse through a variety of greetings and respond to any or all of them. Select the ads you wish to leave messages for and record your responses. Be sure to include your telephone number and the best times to call.

Calls cost 96 cents per minute and will appear on your monthly telephone bill.

## How To Get a "Call Star" Voice Mail Box

**IT'S SIMPLE AND FREE!!** On the coupon below, check off "Free Call Star Voice Mail Box" and mail it in. (You can sign up for just a Call Star Extension, or get an SF Bay Times Mail Reply Box as well.) You will receive a letter from us with your Call Star Extension and your secret password that lets you record your greeting and retrieve your messages. The letter will also give you detailed instructions on how to use the system. Remember: recording your greeting and retrieving your messages are **FREE.**

## How To Reply by Mail to a SF Bay Times Personal Ad

**SEND IN YOUR LETTERS:** If the advertiser has a BT Reply Box, send your reply to Bay Times Personals, 288 7th Street, SF 94103. In the lower left hand corner of the envelope place the box number (not the Call Star Extension!) you are answering. Boxes remain open for two months; i.e. this month's ads may be answered through the month of January.

## How To Place a SF Bay Times Personal Ad and Pick Up Your Written Replies

**BT REPLY BOX MAIL PICK-UP:** You may pick up your mail Monday through Friday from 1-6pm. If you do not have your own P.O. Box, you must get BT mail forwarding. Feel free to call us during the regular pick-up hours to find out if you have mail, and please limit your calls to these hours! *You must bring picture I.D. to pick up your mail at the office.*

**WORD COUNTS/PRICE INFO FOR WRITTEN ADS:** Every word counts! 'A,' 'and,' 'the,' zip codes, PO Boxes, etc. should all be included in your word counts. Count 4 words for "Reply Bay Times Box #. There are no refunds for ads. If there is an error in your ad which substantially affects the value of the ad, we will issue you a credit to rerun the ad. If you have submitted an ad which does not fall within our editorial guidelines and we are unable to notify you (see below), we will issue a credit to run a different ad.

**ADVERTISING GUIDELINES FOR WRITTEN AND VOICE ADS** In placing an ad, you must not use names, telephone numbers or street addresses. If you do not have a PO Box, just check "Reply Bay Times Box" on the form below, and decide whether you wish to pick up the mail or have it sent to you.

The San Francisco Bay Times hopes that you will submit ad copy in keeping with our general editorial policies. Ads should stress those qualities the advertiser finds compatible rather than target specific lifestyles, races or other aspects in a negative manner. We understand the difference between discrimination and personal preference. If your ad does not fall within the realm of our guidelines, we may notify you and allow you to make the necessary alterations. We reserve the right to edit ads. We reserve the right to reject any ad whatsoever.

Remember: speech isn't as free on the telephone as it is in the newspaper. Government regulations forbid the "F-word" recorded on phone lines and other such direct communication. Have fun but be sensible.

**MAIL & VOICE BOXES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR 2 MONTHS; MAIL WILL BE FORWARDED WEEKLY**

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You may stop by the office at the below address to fill out a coupon. **We cannot take personals by phone, nor can we accept anonymous ads. All information will be kept confidential.**

**Mail Coupon To:**
SF Bay Times Personals
288 7th Street, SF, CA 94103

**NEXT DEADLINE: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20**

somewhat preppy guy of average height and good (slim) build, with blond/brn hair and grn eyes, who despite what friends say—"You have everything going for you."—has yet to meet a special man. I seek someone, who like myself, is generally positive, easygoing, open-minded, enjoys a balance of privacy, independence, intimacy, romance and sex. Must have a sense of humor and some interest in art, architecture, travel, sunshine and warm places as well as physical fitness. Send response and photo to BT Box DC123.

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GWM, 5'10", 42, br hair, moustache, blue eyes, nice looking, good shape, masculine, friendly, level-headed, sense of humor, varied interests, wants to meet other men, 30+, who are health conscious and friendly. Reply Boxholder, 584 Castro St., Box 19520, SF 94114-2588 or call ★★1375.

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**Leather Top Seeks Bottom**

Sexually intense, well-educated, affectionate, powerful, trustworthy, HIV neg. GWM, seeks HIV neg. leather twin to consensually dominate, whip, bind and fuck. I am 38, 5'11", 145 lbs, dark hair, slender, muscular, good-looking. You are a nonsmoker, don't need drugs or alcohol to loosen inhibitions. You are proud of your leather image, gayness, attractiveness and power, and are emotionally mature enough to bond with another man. Reply BT Box DC124 or call ★★1376.

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**We Deserve the Best**

Are you tired of the scene and meeting "Mr. Wrong"? I'm a handsome, intelligent, confident, out GWM, 23, nonsmoke/drugs, Democrat, masculine, expressive, HIV neg., triathelete—seeking a 22-30 man with similar qualities. I enjoy candelight dinners, the beach, camping, clubs with friends. What's your story? Photo appreciated. Reply BT Box DC125.

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**Holiday Special**

Good-looking, in-shape, 5'8", 155, light brown, blue, 27, GWM who is HIV neg., honest, sincere, caring and likes outdoors, walks, talks, laughing, joking, cuddling and being with someone to share life with. You are masculine, taller than 5'8", GWM, bigger hands and build (a plus) in-shape, 20-38, HIV neg., good-looking, fun, affectionate and would like a great holiday gift. No smokers, drugs, heavy drinkers or flakes. Letter /phone/photo/? A special worth chancing! Reply BT Box DC126.

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**Inexperienced Offbeat Seeks Same**

WM, 38, 150, 5'10", masculine, slim, fit, balding, stable, versatile, wants boyfriend who seriously digs jazz, soul, books, poetry, theatre, learning, rather than TV, clubs, bars, and fashion. I'm relatively inexperienced in gay relationships. Would like to meet someone slim, under 40-ish, HIV neg., and sweet. Write Boxholder, P.O. Box 2097, SF 94126 or call ★★1377.

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**Unique**

Warm, handsome, intelligent, GBM, 5'10", 165, young 42, HIV neg., entrepreneur seeks GM to 45 who is warm, intelligent, and independent, for hot, safe, sex and friendship. I'm a nonsmoker, light drinker with many interests, including reading, dancing, travel, physical exercise indoors and out, and good conversation. Letters with photos and phone number answered first, but all letters answered. Reply BT Box DC127 or call ★★1378.

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**Reaching Out**

I am sensitive, vulnerable, honest, sensual, 42 y.o. GWM, uprooted from my homeland, seeking intimacy and friendship. Physically I am endowed with good looks, a swimmer's body—6'1", 170 lbs, fairly hairy. I am looking for a tender, receptive lover (not effeminate), who likes hugging and cuddling. Tall men with smooth bodies are most attractive to me, and I have a soft spot for nicely shaped buns. Walking the streets of S.F. alone for many years left me lonely and unfulfilled. If you also feel longing in your heart and that we may bond well in love, please write me with your enclosed picture. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 5224, SF 94101.

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**Buddy**

I am 40, 5'8", 150#, muscular (swim, run, ski, backpack, bike, and lift), attractive (no facial hair), healthy (tobaccoless, HIV neg), with an ironic humor and thick, hard cock. I enjoy my work, out-of-doors, cultural activities, and men—especially muscular, masculine men, 28-42 y.o., dark or black skinned, tobaccoless and HIV neg., who like and/or have big dicks. Write with photo to Boxholder, P.O. Box 11290, Oakland 94611.

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**Lettuce B. Pals**

Asian man, mid-twenties, very nice looking, medium height and build, wants to share and explore the excitement of intimacy and hot sex with an attractive man about my age who is interested in more than a casual relationship if sparks were to fly. I have many varied interests, am intelligent, not a barfly, and can let loose with quips and puns. Tell me your life story and we can write the next chapter together. Send letter, with photo if you like, to BT Box DC128.

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**Paradox**

I am a 30 year old HIV- relationship-oriented GWM. A professional, semi-athletic, attractive, somewhat preppy guy of average height and good (slim) build, with blonde bru hair and grn eyes who despite what friends say "you have everything going for you" has yet to meet a special man. I seek someone, who like myself, is generally positive, easygoing, open-minded; enjoys a balance of privacy, independence, intimacy, romance and sex. Must have a sense of humor and some interest in art, architecture, travel, sunshine and warm places as well as physical fitness. Send response and photo to BT Box DC130

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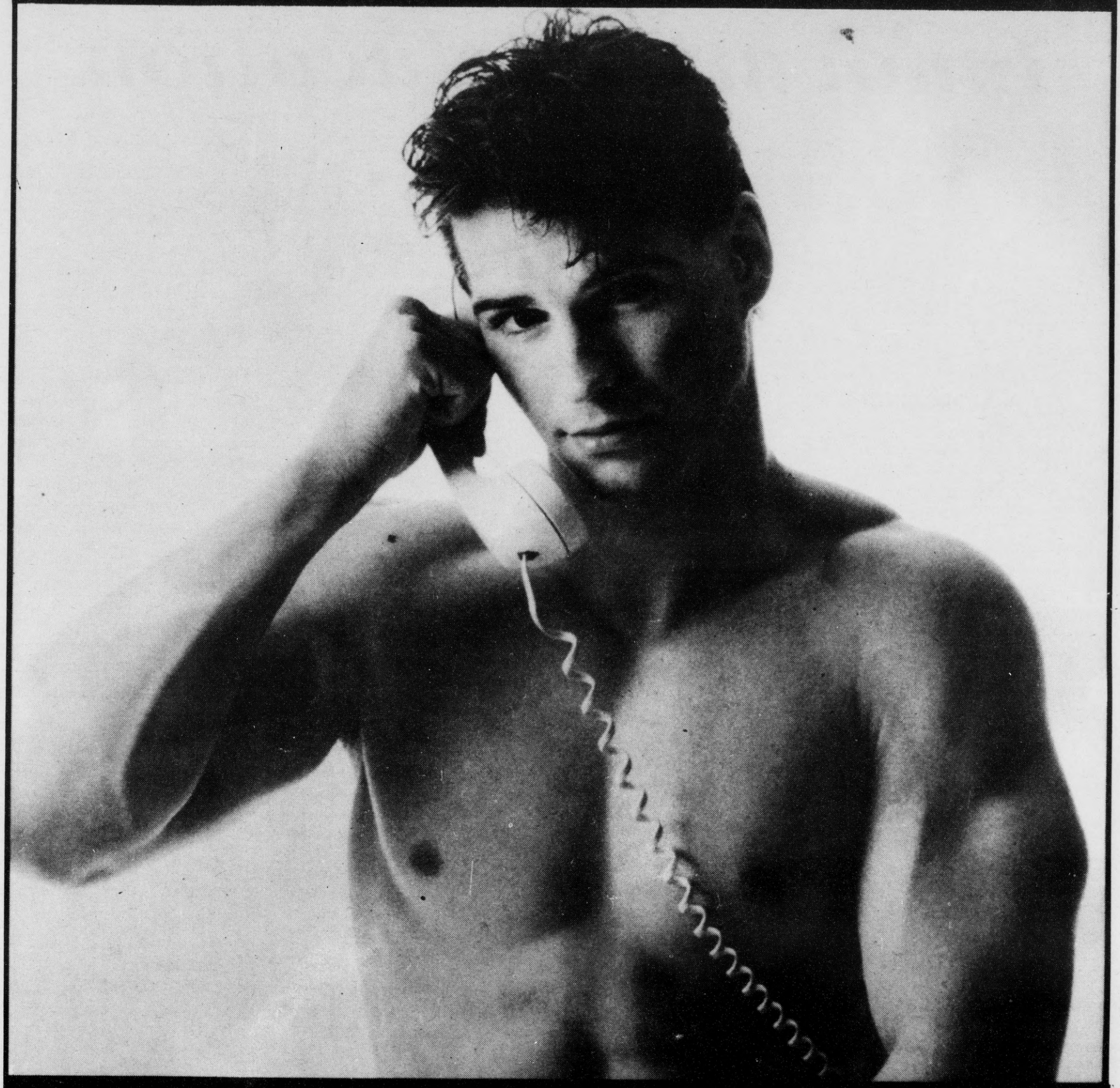

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M.A. in Psychology with a concentration in Feminist Psychology, Social Clinical Psychology, or Somatic Psychology. The program prepares students for MFCC licensure, though training in psychodynamic and family systems theory, with attention to issues of race, class, gender, and politics. Students learn the principles of effective psychotherapy from a faculty of outstanding clinicians, teachers, and social activists in a supportive environment. Applications now being accepted for Spring 1991.

## THE LAW SCHOOL

Recognized nationally for its innovations, the School offers a challenging program, combining the practical skills training, apprenticeship, and classroom work essential for effective lawyering in the public interest. The faculty of progressive attorneys and legal educators encourages active participation and critical thinking by students.The Law School has graduated hundreds of professionals dedicated to the creation of a more just and humane society. Fully accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State of California.

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A critical, interdisciplinary, multicultural, and activist approach. Degree emphases: Anthropology, Arts & Social Change, Ecology, Indian Justice Systems, Integrated Health Studies, Latin American Studies, Poetics, Politics and Society, Psychology, Sport in Society, Writing & Literature. Small, seminar-style classes, close interaction with faculty, and individually designed programs of study. Academic credit for internships in community, media, environmental, health, and labor organizations; up to one year's credit for previous life/work experience.

## THE WEEKEND COLLEGE

B.A. Degree Completion Program in Interdisciplinary Humanities. A one-year program with flexible time commitments and respect for individual learning styles. The curriculum emphasizes experiential learning, critical thinking, and independent research. Students choose an academic concentration area according to their graduate school plans, professional advancement needs, and/or personal interests. All classes are seminars, allowing for close faculty-student interaction. Up to one year of academic credit can be earned for prior life/work experience.

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M.A. in Poetics; B.A. in Humanities with Poetics Emphasis. Led by practicing poets, this unique program blends the critical study of poetry and its context with creative work. Methods include: close reading, critical and imaginative essays, mimetic exercises in the strategies and forms of great poetry, and work with student poetic writing and performance. The program hosts a reading and performance series and offers instruction in letterpress and offset printing, design, and desk-top publishing. Applications now being accepted for Spring 1991.

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The Science Institute offers intensive weekend courses in Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, and Human Biology. The courses are ideal for highly motivated, working adults who need basic science courses as prerequisites to further study or career change, particularly in the heath-care field. The classroom environment is supportive and stimulating: students receive individual help with questions and problems. Hundreds of students from the Institute have gone on to enter professional schools.

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